

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On the 18th February, at Ningpo, the wife of A. WACKER, of a daughter.

On the 24th February, at No. 2, Fairview, Kowloon, the wife of R. S. JUDAH, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 18th February, at St. John's Church, Hankow, by the Rt. Rev. J. A. Ingle, M.A., Bishop of Hankow, and the Rev. A. M. Sherman, B.A., Chaplain of the Port, HAROLD CYRIL SPENCER, youngest son of the late THOMAS CHARLES BELL, of Eastbourne, to EDITH MARY, youngest daughter of the late Rev. JOHN MORTIMER STEPHENS, of Bristol.

DEATHS.

On the 17th February, at the Nursing Home, Shanghai, ROBERT HAMILTON MOOREHEAD, elder son of THEODORE MOOREHEAD, Foochow, aged 21 years.

On the 20th February, at 9, Soochow Road, Shanghai, JOHN CHAMBERS, aged 61 years.

On the 24th February, at No. 5, Chancery Lane, Hongkong, JUDITH MARIE RODRIGUES, the beloved wife of L. F. DA COSTA VIEIRA RIBEIRO. Deeply regretted. Lisbon paper, please copy.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French Mail of the 23rd January arrived, per M.M. steamer *Ernest Simon*, on the 23rd February (31 days); the American mail of the 28th January arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, on the 25th February (28 days); and the English mail of the 30th January arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Faleta*, on the 28th February (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Emperor of Japan intends to review the Japanese Fleet at Kobe on April 10th.

M. Lassar, owing to ill health, has left St. Petersburg for Monto Carlo.

An important decision of the Supreme Court of the United States indicates that Congress already has the power to curb the Trusts.

The *Novoe Vremya* states that it has been decided to increase the staff of the Russian legation at Peking by the addition of a Second Secretary and two student interpreters.

Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister in London, has been initiated into the Empire Lodge of Free masons. His Excellency is the first Japanese initiated into the Lodge.

The *Ostasiatiches* Lloyd reports that the new German railway in Shantung is making rapid progress; the first consignment of coal from the Weihai district has arrived there.

According to a Peking despatch, the Commander at Moukden telegraphs that Russian troops in Shingking and Kirin are to withdraw by the 1st of March. The second evacuation will be effected by the 8th of April.

We received on the 21st inst. from the Colonial Secretary's office a copy of the following telegram from the Colonial Secretary, Singapore, to the Colonial Secretary, Hongkong, dated 20th February, 1903:—"Hongkong declared to be infected."

According to a recent New York despatch, President Roosevelt is particularly firm in his intention to do everything in his power to make Congress pass the measure reducing the tariff on imports from the Philippines to 25 per cent. of the Dingley rate.

The new coinage to be turned out by H.E. Yuan Shikai's mint includes Kuping tael pieces, a little larger than the present Mexican, 50-ta 1-cent, 20-ta 1-cent, and 5-ta 1-cent pieces, with three kinds of copper coins, 20-cash, 10-cash, and 5-cash pieces, but only 10-cash coins will be minted at the outset.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, telegraphing on the 28th inst. says:—"A native banker of this city, uncle of the Yokohama Specie Bank comprador, decamped on Thursday. His liabilities are said to exceed Tls. 1,000,000. It is feared that a foreign bank is among the creditors."

The London Press does not regard Lord Cranborne's exposition of British policy in the Middle and Far East as reassuring. The *Times*, in the course of a leading article, pessimistically remarks that we do not want to see the pitiful story of our policy in China repeated in South Persia.

The *Times* declares that notwithstanding the majority obtained by the Government in the Army debates has been the largest during the session, the weight of the argument has been distinctly against the Government. Hence Mr. Balfour's allusion to the Government's decisions not being irreversible. The *Standard* gives prominence to a letter charging the *Times* with inconsistency, and comparing the article in its issue of the 24th February with one published on the 11th March, 1901.

According to the San Francisco papers, the *Gaelic* brought back thirty-eight Chinese who unsuccessfully tried to enter the United States by the border route, and were ordered to be deported.

The contract which the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha has with the Korean Government, securing a monopoly of the output of ginseng for three years, is now expiring, but the M.B.K., says a Japan paper, has the option of renewal upon terms to be mutually arranged, and negotiations to this end are now in progress.

L'Echo de Chine learns telegraphically that M. Deloncle, deputy for Indo-China, has laid before the Chamber a resolution inviting the French Government to distribute the complete text of the agreements concluded with China on 7th September, 1901, the diplomatic correspondence relating to the Anglo-Chinese Treaty of 5th September, 1902, and the evacuation of Shanghai.

A special despatch to the *Shanghai Times* dated Chengtu, January 28, says:—"The notorious female leader of the Boxers in this province, Liao Kwan Yin (Liao, the Goddess of Mercy) who was some time ago incorrectly reported to have been slain in a battle with the Imperial troops, fell into the hands of the soldiers under Magistrate Tien Tsun Feng, only a few days ago, and was subsequently decapitated."

The *Sin Wan Pao* says that it has been the established custom of Kwangtung to have a census taken of the males and females within its precincts at the end of every year. Last year the statistics presented to the Viceroy and Governor and to the Peking Government by the Kwangtung Provincial Treasurer stated that the male population of that province was 14,844,544 while the female population was 14,515,594, making a total population of 29,360,138 in that province.

A Peking despatch states that it is reported that Prince Su has obtained the consent of the Throne to establish a sort of Mixed Court in the Tartar City, where the Manchus of the Blue Banner Corps have their allotted residence. It is intended, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, to hold judicial sittings in the new Mixed Court to try petty cases such as are conducted in the Mixed Court in Shanghai. For this purpose Prince Su is selecting officers of the fifth rank, or higher, who can speak foreign languages, thereby enabling them to converse personally with the foreign assessors who will be appointed to try foreign-Chinese petty cases with them.

In a New York telegram appearing in the *Manila Cable News*, announcing that the Bill making the gold peso the unit of value in the Philippines had been passed by the Senate, it is stated that the peso will have a standard weight of 12.9-10 grains and the silver pesos will have a standard of 416 grains. Subsidiary coinage is also provided for. Five million silver pesos will be coined at once. Spanish Mexican coin will cease to be legal tender on January 1, 1904. To maintain the parity, the Philippine Government is authorized to issue certificates to the amount of ten million dollars payable in American gold coin. The Bill will have an early conference and there is every prospect of its being concurred in by the House of Representatives.

WEIHAIWEI.

(Daily Press, 24th February.)

The future of Weihaiwei as a commercial port is, of course, bound up with the action the British Government intends to take as to its defence. From many points of view the port offers advantages as a commercial emporium not to be lightly thrown away; but in the present position of affairs in the Far East it would be the height of folly to expect any considerable amount of capital to be sunk in a port liable without notice to be bombarded by a Russian fleet from Port Arthur. As a commercial harbour, with the works we have already pointed out as necessary for its protection as a powerful naval base in northern waters, Weihaiwei Bay is nearly perfect, affording as it does on the mainland ample accommodation for wharves, godowns and residences, without the drawback of having to pay heavy port dues and duties on entrance, as for the future will be the case in all Chinese ports. In this respect Weihaiwei stands in the same position as Hongkong. There is, it may be said, absolutely no local trade with the interior, the portion of the Shantung Peninsula lying close by being very restricted in area, and of itself offering no commodities for export. On the other hand it is most admirably situated for a distributing centre, being in immediate connection with and almost equally distant from each of the ports of entry of the Gulf of Pechili. Talienwan, the mouth of the Yalu River, Newchwang, Chingwantao, Taku, Yangcheo Keo at the mouth of the Yellow River, Laichow-fu and Chefoo, are all important contributing ports; none of them capable of being reached by ocean steamers, but all accessible to coasting craft. In addition to these Chinese ports, equally accessible are the ports on the west coast of Corea, up to this time strangely neglected by British steamers, Pingyang, Chemulpo, Mokpo, &c., and of all these Weihaiwei is the natural centre. As trade is at present conducted, Shanghai has become the distributing centre for the Gulf ports; but Shanghai though well suited as a trading port is wanting in the facilities possessed by Weihaiwei, as it is precluded from direct access with the smaller ports; and even with Tientsin and Chefoo, the only ports capable of trading with Shanghai direct, the comparative smallness of the steamers necessitated causes the charges from Shanghai to the port of delivery frequently to exceed the cost of conveyance from Europe. Of course, on the other hand, in favour of Shanghai is the fact that all steamers trading with Europe make use of the Suez Canal, and carry their cargo optional for Hongkong or Shanghai. The Chinese, too, with their trading instincts always gravitate to the largest ports, where the amount of goods centred affords them a wider choice and enables them to make a larger market. This position of affairs cannot be looked upon as permanent. The trade of the Gulf of Pechili is sufficiently great, and its nature sufficiently distinct from that of the Yangtze provinces, to favour direct importation; especially when the difference of trade charges between shipping to a free trade and transshipping at a Chinese port like Shanghai is taken into account. This difference will be still further increased in the not distant future, when the opening of the Panama Canal, now being seriously taken in hand by the United States Government, will emphasise the advantage to Great Britain of having in North China a port of distribution equally well suited to the requirements of trade, as she at present possesses for South China in Hongkong.

As a fact when the opening of the Canal becomes an accomplished fact, the exigencies of trade will compel the United States to afford the same facilities as are at present offered by the Suez route. Looking then merely to the trans-Pacific passage to China, it will be seen that Weihaiwei will have a distinct advantage in point of accessibility over the southern colony. Of course it by no means follows that because Weihaiwei must, if sensible counsels prevail, increase and multiply, Hongkong need have any fear of the competition being injurious to its interests. Hongkong from its position must continue to be the emporium for all the Suez Canal traffic, and this must of necessity include the whole or nearly the whole of the Mediterranean trade. It must also be always the terminus of an increasing amount of the Australian trade, as well as of the whole of the Indian. In addition to this, Hongkong and Weihaiwei at the extreme south and north respectively must, when in free hands, develop an enormous amount of local trade. In every way, looking at the affair in a broad and Imperial light—whether we consider Weihaiwei from a military, or from a commercial standpoint—we must see in the new possession the natural supplement to Hongkong, each being in its own way especially suited to meet the natural needs of the other.

THE MEDICAL REPORT FOR 1902.

(Daily Press, 23rd February.)

The report of Dr. F. W. CLARK, Medical Officer of Health, for the year 1902, appears earlier in time than many of its predecessors. It is dated from the Sanitary Board offices on the 20th January and was laid before the Board at its last meeting. The report is full of interest, but is of such length that we are precluded from doing more than touching on some of the salient points. To begin with we must note the constant growth of the Colony. The domestic buildings, exclusive of barracks and police stations, now number 9,234, including 920 non-Chinese buildings, the European dwellings on the Peak still being put down as some 130. This shows an increase of 48 non-Chinese dwellings as compared with the previous year, and an increase of 140 Chinese dwellings. The plans of 808 new buildings and of alterations to 1,833 existing buildings have passed through Dr. CLARK'S hands during the year, with a view to seeing that they complied with the Public Health Ordinances; these figures include, as in former years, many alternative plans and amendments to rejected plans. During the previous year plans of 1,369 new buildings and of alterations to 1,497 existing buildings were received, so that the records of the past year show a considerable decrease in the number of new buildings planned, and a fairly large increase in the number of alterations to existing buildings. With the growth of the Colony the most important matter is naturally its sanitary condition, and 1902 should mark a turning point in the history of this, consequent upon the visit of Professor SIMPSON and Mr. CHADWICK. The Public Health and Buildings Bill, gradually approaching its final form, is looked to as promising steady improvement in sanitary conditions. In conjunction with better construction of new buildings, resumption of insanitary properties and removal of obstructive buildings must go hand in hand. Dr. CLARK writes:—"Such an undertaking, in other cities, has almost always been carried out by a Trust, instituted for the purpose, and as the time appears now to be ripe for some elaborate scheme of

resumption of insanitary property, I have appended to this report a reprint of a draft-scheme drawn up by Mr. MAY, Mr. OSBORNE, and myself, some three years ago, which may at least serve as a basis for discussion when this question is again considered, and lead, I hope, to some decisive action at no distant date." We trust that this suggestion of the Medical Officer of Health will not be allowed to pass unheeded, for whether the scheme recommends itself or not to the authorities it is obvious that action of some kind in the direction indicated cannot be longer delayed. In connection with the general sanitary conditions of Hongkong under its new conditions it must be noted that Dr. CLARK once more raises the question of the insufficiency of public sanitary conveniences such as latrines and bath-houses, which is of course accentuated by every advance in population here. It is unnecessary to emphasise the extent of the recent advance. The census of January, 1897, gave the population as 248,880; that of January, 1901, as 283,975 (exclusive of the New Territories); while the estimated population at the middle of 1902 was 311,824—a wonderful increase.

This population is essentially a male adult one, no less than 72.9 per cent. of the Chinese and 62.5 per cent. of the non-Chinese civil population being male, and more than half the civil population being between the ages of 20 and 45. The proportion of males at the census taken in 1897 was, among the Chinese 70.9 per cent., and among the non-Chinese 58.6 per cent., and the reduction in the proportion of women both among Chinese and non-Chinese is, Dr. CLARK considers, the direct result of the greatly enhanced cost of living of late years, and the increasing difficulty in obtaining suitable accommodation for families. This is a striking corroboration of the complaints which we hear on every side. As to surface-crowding Dr. CLARK'S remarks still more demand attention. He says:—"I have in previous reports called attention to the acute surface crowding which exists in the more central districts of the City. District No. 5 shows more than 800 persons to the acre, while Districts 6, 9, 4, 7 and 8 are also far too densely packed with human beings, and it is essential to the welfare of this Colony that a remedy should be speedily found and put into operation for this insanitary condition. So far as I have been able to ascertain, there is no other city in the world which has 132 persons to the acre, and yet this is the density of population of the City of Victoria as a whole, that is to say, including all the outlying vacant lands, and the villages, Race Course, and cemeteries in No. 1 Health District, the public gardens and all the vacant military land in Nos. 2 and 3 Health Districts, and all the unoccupied hill-side below the upper limit of the City Health Districts (i.e., about 450 feet above high water mark). Glasgow, which is the most densely crowded of the large cities of the United Kingdom, has but 61 persons to the acre. It will also be seen from the first table that Health Districts 2 and 9, in which districts the outbreaks of bubonic plague almost invariably commence and are the most severe, show the greatest number of occupants per floor, namely, 8.8 and 9.0 as compared with an average for the City of 7.4; this, in itself, is excessive, although well within the limit of thirty square feet of floor space per head, which is all that is at present legally required in any dwelling in the Colony, except within the European District Reservation area, where

"each person must be allowed one thousand cubic feet of air space—thus necessitating a larger floor area."

We make no apology for so long a quotation, for the matter is absolutely vital to the Colony. It cannot be wondered at that the death-rate is so high, seeing that so much remains to be done—and so much, we might add, to be begun—in the improvement of the sanitary conditions of the inhabitants. Yet, though our death-rate is exceedingly high, having regard to the fact that the population is so largely composed of young adults, it is, as the Medical Officer's report says, satisfactory to find that, in spite of the persistence of plague, the death-rate shows a considerable reduction during the past ten years as compared with the previous decade. The average annual rate has dropped from 27.27 to 23.57 per 1,000. The total number of deaths registered during 1902 was 6,783, as compared with 7,082 during the previous year. The death-rate for 1902 was, therefore, 21.7 per 1,000 as compared with 23.5 in 1901, 23.9 for 1900, and an average of 23.0 per 1,000 during the past five years. These deaths include 582 from plague. The birth-rate in 1902 was 3.8 per 1,000 as compared with 3.6 in 1901, 3.3 in 1900, and 4.3 in 1899. But the number of Chinese births registered does not give an accurate record of the total number of births of Chinese that have occurred in the Colony, for many of the infants that die during the first month or so of life remain unregistered. It has been customary, therefore, to add to the registered births the number of infants of one month old and under that die in the various convents, or are found by the police in the streets or in the harbour. The number during 1902 was 239 males and 364 females, making a total of 603; and the addition of these figures to the registered Chinese births gives a total of 1,569 as compared with 1,410 during the previous year. The corrected birth-rate is 6.1 per 1,000, while among the Chinese alone the rate becomes 5.3 per 1,000.

To one other matter only in Dr. CLARK's report do we propose here to refer, and that is the rainfall of 1902, a matter which, it will readily be understood, has a close connection with the health of the Colony. The total rainfall during 1902 was 97.5 inches as compared with 55.78 in 1901 and an average of 77.86 during the past ten years. These figures might surprise those of us, living in enjoyment of a two hours' daily supply of water, who have forgotten the heavy rains which we occasionally experienced last year. The greatest amount of rain which fell on any one day was 8.06 inches on August 2nd, while no rain fell on 223 days of the year; the relative humidity of the atmosphere throughout the year was 75.6 per cent. as compared with 75 per cent. in the previous year; while during March to August it averaged continuously over 82 per cent. The average daily amount of sunshine throughout the year was 5.3 hours and on 51 days no sunshine was recorded. Dr. CLARK comments:—"In my annual report for 1899 I showed that the average rainfall during the decade ending that year was eleven and a half inches less than the average rainfall during the preceding decade. The above figures show that the average has fallen still further, for during the past decade it has been more than sixteen and a half inches less than during that ending 1892. Any estimates of water-supply, therefore, based on previous records of rainfall are subject to a very considerable discount from this cause, while a continuous supply can only

"be assured by taking as the basis of calculation the lowest annual rainfall of, say, the last twenty years."

PORT HAMILTON.

(Daily Press, 26th February.)

Sixteen years ago to-morrow the British flag was hauled down at Port Hamilton (otherwise the Namhow Islands, off the southern end of the Korean peninsula) after an occupation of little less than two years, and the place, which had so suddenly sprung into prominence, reverted to Korea and to obscurity. The story of its momentary fame in history is curious. Korea itself had hardly come within the sphere of European politics more than a few years before the Port Hamilton incident occurred. The country's relations had been entirely with China and Japan, and Russia had only just begun to come on the scene. But the advent of Russia speedily attracted British attention, and the question of our interests in the China Sea was soon involved. Russia's most southerly harbour in the Far East was then Vladivostok in 43.7 N. latitude, and her encroachment further south was not regarded in England with that toleration which prevailed at the time of Port Arthur's seizure. In 1885 Russia was more than suspected of having designs on Port Lazareff at the head of Broughton Bay, and the strategic importance of the Namhow Islands lay in the fact that they practically commanded the natural outlet from the Sea of Japan into the China Sea. With Port Hamilton in our hands, it was considered by competent authorities, Russia's establishment on the eastern coast of Korea would be checkmated; and a base of operations gained if it became necessary to attack Russia in the North-west Pacific. The British Government decided that we could not risk Port Hamilton falling into Russian hands, and on the 14th April, 1885, telegraphed to Admiral DOWELL to occupy it. Three British warships proceeded at once to the harbour and on the arrival of a Russian volunteer cruiser on the 10th May hoisted the Union Jack. "So, simply and briefly, was effected the British occupation of Port Hamilton," writes Mr. R. S. GUNDY in his *China and Her Neighbours*. "Twenty-four hours previously, it may be safely affirmed, hardly one European in a million had known that the islands exist; nor was the proportion much greater of Englishmen who knew where they are situated, when news came of their occupation." China, Japan, and Korea herself were immediately informed by the British Government of the step which had been taken. The two former countries acquiesced in a guarded fashion, and it seems probable that they must have at least been sounded beforehand; but China later on, evidently under pressure from Russia, refused to sign an agreement with Great Britain formally recognising the occupation of Port Hamilton. Korea meanwhile had entered a protest and showed signs of Russian influence. So the matter went on until April, 1886, when Lord ROSEBURY, who had now taken up the seal of office, definitely proposed an evacuation if China would propose to Russia and other Powers interested to enter into an international arrangement guaranteeing Korea's integrity. On these lines (which were those already hinted at during Lord SALISBURY's regime) a solution of the question was arrived at finally. But during the end of 1885, the defensibility of Port Hamilton had been strongly impugned, except at a considerable expense on fortifications. The Admiralty in March, 1886,

stated that unless the island were fortified and garrisoned it would not be advisable to retain possession of it. The responsibility thrown on the British fleet on the China station was felt to be too heavy and the Government was not prepared to construct a strong fortress. It was felt also to be unwise to arouse China's ill-will by prolonging the occupation, especially as China had obtained the suggested promises from Russia. There was no difficulty, therefore, in concluding an agreement whereby Britain evacuated Port Hamilton on the faith of Russia's guarantee to China that she would not occupy Korean territory under any circumstances whatever. Accordingly on the 27th February, 1887, the British flag was hauled down and the episode closed. The guarantee which Russia gave in return for the British retirement has so far stood the test of time, though it has frequently appeared on the point of being broken. Since 1887, however, Japan's position in the Far East has altered so completely that Korea's freedom from Russian aggression has other safeguards than Russia's truth to her word. The Port Hamilton affair was useful in that it held Russia in check until other factors made the absorption of Korea by her northern neighbour a task which could only be accomplished at the expense of a terrific struggle, if at all.

CHINESE LABOUR FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

(Daily Press, 25th February.)

The question of the import of labour into the Rand is at the present time occupying considerable attention outside as well as in South Africa itself, and, in view of the strong support given in some quarters to the proposal to secure Chinese labourers, interest must be felt in the matter even out here. It will be seen from REUTER's telegram that Johannesburg has sent out a special commissioner to make investigations in China, via London and California. In the papers brought by the last mail from home there are numerous references to the Rand labour problem and some interviews with people qualified to speak with authority. Mr. LEOPOLD ALBU, interviewed by the *Daily Chronicle*, expressed himself most strongly in favour of the importation of Chinese. In fact he went so far as to say that there is only one possible source of labour-supply; and that is China." He expressed himself, moreover, as hopeful that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN would eventually agree to the introduction of Chinese, concluding with the words: "After all, what is the foundation of all the objections to it? Simply sentiment. We have been living on sentiment for the past four years. Now we want business." This is at least admirably concise. These views are supported by the London manager of the firm of Messrs. GOERZ & Co., who told the *Financial Times* that enquiries satisfied the firm that of all the outside labour available Chinese was probably the best, and that he considered Chinese had been proved to be superior to Indian labourers. With regard to this latter point, it will be remembered, we recently quoted some remarks from Mr. HUGH CLIFFORD's report on the Federated Malay States; but of course the circumstances in Malaya and the Rand render the cases very dissimilar.

Now it is a familiar fact that the opponents of the importation of Chinese are very many and very outspoken, and we have heard of the sympathy expressed in Australia with those who would keep Chinese out of South Africa. A recent writer in the *Daily Mail* restated forcibly

from the "white Australian" point of view, the case against the Chinaman, drawing his arguments chiefly from the state of affairs in the New South Wales. He concludes with the statement: "The Yellow Man, like a bad habit, is easier to acquire than to get rid of. To those of us who have seen what his effect has been elsewhere, the prospect of his possible importation into South Africa is simply appalling. Even if the primary difficulty of keeping him in his place could be overcome, there would still remain the tremendous evil of his effect upon his neighbours, both black and white. And when once that ball has been set rolling there is no power on earth that can arrest its progress or avert its consequences." It cannot be denied that the Australian arguments against the Chinaman, although lacking in novelty, are not devoid of force. There are many irrefutable charges to be brought against the Chinese immigrant, the real gist of them being that he does not, except in very rare cases, settle in the country to which he goes, but sends his money and ultimately, if he lives, returns himself to China. He is therefore but a scant source of wealth to the country of his sojourn.

The question next naturally suggests itself—What alternatives are there to the introduction of the variously estimated Chinese labourer? There are four such alternatives. The first, that which occurs most readily, is the employment of British African labour entirely, throwing open for the purpose the whole of our African possessions to recruiting; the second is the engagement of British navvies; the third, that of Italian navvies; and the fourth, the importation of Asiatic labourers other than Chinese. The last alternative may be taken first. It seems generally agreed that neither Indians, Japanese, nor Koreans are likely to be so good as Chinese; the Japanese are open to much the same objections as the Chinese, and the other two are less effective workmen. To the employment of natives from districts north of the Zambesi the main objection seems to be the dread of the hitherto mysterious malady known as "sleeping sickness," the spread of which to the Rand would make the situation far more serious than it is now. Moreover, it is doubtful whether there is a sufficient available supply of black labour to be got in the northern territories, seeing that there is a large labour demand in them also. As the authority interviewed by the *Financial Times* stated, one of the things the employers of labour have to contend against in the smaller colonies is that local requirements are always said to be capable of absorbing the home supply. That was a cry raised in the case of Uganda, where it was claimed that the natives may be required for industries which are to spring up in the dim future. And it was Indian coolies and not native Africans who built the Uganda Railway. With regard to British navvies, a statement was recently made that the Government was prepared to import 5,000 of them on condition that the mine-owners would engage an equal number, and that their pay would be 4s. a day besides their keep. Kaffir labour costs about 2s. a day, and Mr. ARBU told the *Chronicle*: "If we had to pay five times as much for our labour as we do now, our industry would be killed. These are all experiments. We have been trying experiments for four years, and we must now either get to work or close our mines." Italian navvies might be cheaper, but their employment seems to find little favour, and even they would require high wages. Messrs. GORR's manager puts the

case thus: "To hope to get any profit we could not pay the white man what would be regarded as a fair wage, and then, side by side with the Kaffir, I doubt myself very much if he would be able to do as hard work as the black. It used to be said that one white man was equal to two or three natives, but I don't believe that myself, so far as the more laborious forms of work, such as drilling, are concerned. Then, too, you never will get white men to do what the blacks will do; to become a 'white Kaffir' is considered a degradation, the significance of which is often not fully realised here." This statement of the case requires no strengthening.

Judging by the above, we are tempted to conclude that Chinese labour is the best, if not the only, resource left for the Rand owners. The question, however, is so complicated that it would be foolish to look for a speedy settlement of a final character. The main facts of the situation appear to be that black labour is too scarce, white labour too dear, Indian labour inferior to Chinese, and that the mining managers are tired of experiments and in immediate want of a large supply of men—200,000 to 300,000 are the limits of the estimate. There is the strong prejudice against the Chinaman, on the one hand, and on the other there are the opinions of prominent men that the Chinaman alone can fill the vacancy at present existing. The Commissioner of the Johannesburg Chamber of Mines has undertaken to report upon a very vexed question.

JAPANESE COMMERCIAL MORALITY.

(Daily Press, 27th February.)

In a new quarterly magazine entitled *The East and the West*, issued by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, appears an interesting article by Dr. AWDRY, the Bishop of South Tokyo, on "Some Weak Points in the Japanese Character." It consists mainly in an attempt to explain the low state of commercial morality which admittedly prevails in Japan. "If we were called upon to do business with the Chinese," the Bishop says, "we should place complete reliance in them; but if with the Japanese we should watch them most carefully at every turn." Dr. AWDRY, in the first place, accounts for the difference by saying that in China the merchant is respected and self-respecting, while in Japan all the best elements of the national culture and ideals are associated with the military class, and trade and the handling of money are accounted degrading. This in itself would be a very inadequate explanation. Mr. CLEMENT F. R. ALLEN, formerly H.B.M.'s Consul at Foochow, who contributes an article in the same number of the magazine on "China's Needs" incidentally expresses the opinion that Chinese commercial morality is explained by the fact that they have learnt the lesson that honesty is the best policy, and he adds that it is at least doubtful whether they are actuated by any higher motive. While Mr. ALLEN justly says of the Chinese that they will keep to the terms of a time bargain, and that a merchant will account for every penny entrusted to him, Dr. AWDRY tells his readers "that the Japanese fail miserably in the matter of keeping their word in contracts." Why the difference? The Bishop does not attempt to furnish any further information on this point than that we have quoted above, but he discusses at some length the historical causes of the "defect in the Japanese code which we call commercial

immorality," and comes to the conclusion that it is "negative rather than positive, non-moral rather than immoral, a deficiency rather than a substantive point in their character." There is a great deal to be said for the Bishop's view of the subject, but it is safe to say that it will not be entirely endorsed by the foreign merchants in Japan who suffer by reason of the "defect" which they prefer to regard as immoral rather than non-moral. The arguments used are not wholly free from inconsistency. When on the abolition of Feudalism in Japan forty years ago the military, "which was the most cultured and honourable class" were paid off and advised to use their money to good account, they soon lost their money and took to the army, the police, public offices of various kinds even jinricksha-driving, but not to trade, says the Bishop, "and trade was left chiefly to those who did not belong to the honourable class, for with few exceptions they only could succeed in it." Two inferences may be drawn from this statement, viz., either that this class was a dishonourable class in the usual acceptation of the term, or else that they only could succeed because they were already experienced in commercial dealings. It is probably the latter view which the Bishop wishes to convey, as he writes not without admiration of the "mutual consideration which was never absent from their contracts" before "international commerce came to demoralise their dealings"—demoralise them, that is by the elimination of the system of mutual consideration which, according to the Bishop, is impossible in large and complicated engagements and doubly impracticable in international commerce.

Be that as it may, after forty years of international trading, one would suppose that the Japanese people would have generally recognised the immorality of the breaking of contracts and have saved themselves from the reproach that such articles as the Bishop's must necessarily cast upon them. We question whether any of the Japanese Chambers of Commerce would offer a similar defence of the evils, which the leading men in the Japanese commercial world fully recognise and, to their credit be it said, are striving to correct.

THEATRE ROYAL.

"THE SECOND IN COMMAND."

The Brough Company on the 21st inst. introduced to Hongkong for the first time Captain Marshall's military comedy *The Second in Command*, meeting with a well-deserved success. A great contrast to *Are You a Mason?* the second piece in the Broughs' repertory gives a still better chance for our visitors to exhibit their talents. The author of *His Excellency the Governor* has in the play which we witnessed on Saturday presented an amusing picture of military life, though we would not like to guarantee its perfect accuracy. However, it is sufficiently realistic to appeal even to an audience of which a large section is itself military. There is a good deal of sentiment as well as of comedy in *The Second in Command*, and if Captain Marshall makes his heroes quixotic to an extent which would be irritating in real life, we must forgive him in consideration of the genuine entertainment which his work provides, and must overlook the strain on our credulity imposed by the scene in "Trafalgar Cottage," Portsmouth. *The Second in Command*, as played by the Brough Company, is well worth seeing—even of seeing twice.

Messrs. Brough and Lovell between them took the leading masculine roles, those of the two officers of varying degrees of quixotry. Mr. Brough's Major Christopher Bingham was, we need hardly say, a finished performance, and we ask for no better exponent of the part. Quiet and restrained, he made the audience accept

his conduct as natural and carried through the improbable fourth act to a successful conclusion. Mr. Lovell, who has come on very much indeed since his last visit to Hongkong, was most excellent as Lieut.-Col. Miles Anstruther. It is a tribute to his capacities that in the love scene with Muriel Mannering he did not annoy. Mr. Leslie Victor's Hilderbrand Carstairs was distinctly good, though hardly convincing in the hospital scene; his health appeared to mend too rapidly. The other chief man's part was Lieut. Sir Walter Mannering, appropriately portrayed by Mr. Ernest Vere. Of the ladies, Mrs. Brough lost none of the opportunities offered by the rôle of Muriel, to which she imparted her characteristic grace and charm. Lady Harburgh was most amusingly depicted by Miss Susie Vaughan, and Nora Vining brightly sustained by Miss Brenda Gibson. We must not forget the capable manner in which the minor parts were taken by Messrs. McLean, Walshe, Higson, Webster, Leslie, Clark, McIntyre, and Daly.

The full cast was as follows:—

Lieut.-Col. Miles Anstruther, D.S.O. ...	Mr. W. T. Lovell
Major Christopher Bingham	Mr. Brough
Lieut. Sir Walter Mannering	Mr. Ernest Vere
Lieut. Barker	Mr. M. McLean
Adenham	Mr. Percy Walshe
Hartopp	Mr. Higson
Sergeant	Mr. Webster
Corporal	Mr. Leslie
Orderly	Mr. Clark
Mr. Feiwick	Mr. McIntyre
The Hon. Hilderbrand Carstairs, Mr. Leslie Victor	
The Duke of Hull	Mr. Orlando Daly
Muriel Mannering	Mrs. Brough
Lady Harburgh	Miss Susie Vaughan
Nora Vining	Miss Brenda Gibson

Among those present were H.E. the Governor and the Government House party. The *Second in Command* was repeated on Monday.

"LADY HUNTWORTH'S EXPERIMENT."

The playgoing world is under an obligation to Lady Huntworth for having made an experiment of the kind witnessed in the Theatre Royal on the 26th inst., for its narration provides opportunity to enjoy one of the brightest comedies that ever left the pen of the author, Mr. R. C. Carton. Possessing all the qualifications of the best modern pieces of lighter vein, the comedy had an added recommendation in its treatment at the hands of Mr. Brough's excellent company, being played with perfect smoothness and finish and having the salient points of every character strongly brought out. In the hands of Mrs. Brough, *Lady Huntworth* is a most lady-like cook, and her passages with *Captain Dorvaston*, who falls in love with her, never overstep the bounds of discretion. As a matter of fact, however, a real love interest is hardly more than suggested, the author preferring to treat the character lightly and humorously rather than seriously, and in this aspect Mrs. Brough's study was all that could be wished. Mr. Brough gave a capital sketch of the *Rev. Audley Pillenger*, and—almost unnecessary to say—carried his audience with him throughout the entire evening. The portrait was rich in those subtle touches which Mr. Brough knows so well to apply, and faithful to the author's ideal. Mr. Lovell has already proved his title as an actor of merit, and his characterisation of *Captain Dorvaston*, contrasting as it does with that of *Colonel Anstruther* in the preceding night's play, showed that he is equally proficient in light as in heavier work. Miss Susie Vaughan was perfectly at home as *Miss Hannah Pillenger*, and depicted the personality of the vicar's domineering sister accurately and incisively, voice, gesture, and facial expression never being otherwise than an harmonious study of the whole part. In *Mr. Crayll* we have a character in direct contradistinction to any other in the play, and it stands out all the blacker for the contrast. Its enactment, therefore, by reason of its isolation, so to speak, was a difficult task, but one which Mr. Leslie Victor undertook with excellent results. Minutely attentive to detail, he drew a fine picture of the titled dipsomaniac, and never sacrificed effect for sentimentality. One of the most humorous rôles in the cast was that of *Gandy*, the man-servant of the vicar, whose funeral aspect and disrespectful monosyllabic

answers—though unsatisfactory enough were they encountered in real, every-day life, and likely to lead to a vacancy in any establishment on which he inflicted his presence—provided endless merriment and won praise for the delineator of the part, Mr. Percy Walshe. Miss Gillies Brown gave a clever impersonation of *Rezia*, the servant at the Vicarage, whilst Mr. Ernest Vere and Miss Temple played brightly their respective parts of the *Rev. Henry Thornby* and *Lucy Pillenger*.

BANQUET TO THE CHINESE MINISTER TO WASHINGTON.

At the banquet given on Wednesday evening at the Connaught House Hotel in honour of His Excellency the Chinese Minister to Washington, briefly mentioned in our yesterday's issue, the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., who presided, proposed the health of His Majesty the King of England and the Royal Family. "God Save the King" was played.

Hon. WAI YUK proposed the health of His Majesty the Emperor of China.

Mr. FUN WA CHUN proposed the toast of the guest of the evening. We meet here this evening, he said, to bid farewell to His Excellency Sir Chen Tung Lung Cheng, our own countryman. I ask you all to join me in heartily drinking his health and wishing him *bon-voyage*. (Applause.) As you are aware, His Excellency is possessed of eminent abilities and wide experience, and you may rest assured that on his mission to America, Spain, and Peru he will be able to prove not only worthy of the high esteem in which he is held, but also to the outside world that in him China has appointed the right man in the right place, as regards international dealings. (Loud applause.) In his present appointment, His Excellency has a good opportunity of utilising to the best advantage his enlightened education and of rendering valuable services both to his country and his countrymen trading in the States. (Applause.) I am sure, when I say may be, on his return, be promoted to the highest position in China, I simply echo the feelings of all present. Let us give three hearty cheers for His Excellency. (Loud cheers.)

HIS EXCELLENCY SIR LIANG CHENG in responding said Mr. Chairman, Mr. Fung Wa Chun and gentlemen, I pass by Hongkong en route to America, to which I am being sent by my Imperial master. Not regarding me as herb and grass, but with genuine feelings as a fellow-countryman, you have so kindly invited me to this grand banquet, for which I am extremely grateful. As I have been appointed Minister to three countries, I am afraid that with such poor abilities as I possess (No! no!) I shall not be competent to discharge my responsible duties to the satisfaction of my countrymen, but any opportunity by which the commercial interest of China can be benefited I will take full advantage of in the hope of repaying to a small extent the kindness of my Imperial master and also meeting the wishes of my countrymen trading abroad. (Loud applause.) You are well aware there is at present a hot race for ascendancy between the different commercial countries, and the commerce of our country, still in its infancy, requires close attention and constant nourishment. It is therefore my earnest wish that you gentlemen will always bear in mind the duties to each other as fellow countrymen, and work unitedly to improve the condition of our commerce so as to be able to enjoy the boundless benefits which commerce brings in its train. Gentlemen, I again thank you for your kindness. (Loud applause.)

Mr. TAM Tsz KONG proposed the toast of the *Attaché* and Mr. CHEUNG KIN HON responded with thanks.

It has already been mentioned by us that two or three of the larger steamers now running on the Imperial mail service of the North German Lloyd are to be taken off the run. We notice that the *Japan Gazette* states that the steamers in question are the *König Albert* and the *Priaratz Irene*, which are to be transferred to the service between Mediterranean ports and New York. Our Yokohama contemporary understands, however, that the steamers will run to the Far East in the spring and fall of each year.

DEATH OF DR. CANTON.

Dr. Herbert Canton, Staff-Surgeon, H.M.S. *Tamar*, died on the 21st inst. at the Naval Hospital, and was buried in the afternoon at Happy Valley with impressive naval honours. There was a very large attendance of officers, military as well as naval, and detachments of bluejackets and marines from the ships on the station were also present. The cortege as it left the Naval Hospital and proceeded slowly in the direction of the cemetery was headed by a naval band playing the solemn music of the dead march, and behind came a party of men bearing wreaths, with which mute tokens of esteem for the memory of a departed comrade and friend the flag-covered coffin, borne on a gun-carriage manned by sailors, was covered. The firing party of marines was a strong one, and when the burial service was over three rounds were fired over the grave, their echoes rolling all round the hills and mingling with the shouts that came faintly from the football field in the distance. Then the "Last Post" was sounded, and the dead surgeon was left to his long sleep.

The deceased, whose seniority dates from 21st August, 1895, was formerly Fleet Surgeon on H.M.S. *L'Immortelle*. In 1898 he went home on leave, and during his stay in England he married, afterwards returning to Hongkong, and being appointed on 20th August, 1900, to the position he held at the time of his death. Dr. Canton was on the eve of departing for England with his wife, upon whom the blow must thus have fallen with terrible violence. To her, in her great loss, the sympathy of all is extended.

A NEW MASONIC BUILDING.

READING-ROOM AND LIBRARY.

Another indication of the flourishing condition of The Craft in Hongkong is furnished in the handsome new annexe now in course of completion at the Masonic Hall in Zetland Street. The desirability of having accommodation in the nature of a reading-room for the convenience of seafaring members has been long recognised. Also it was felt that provision should be made for an European caretaker to live on the premises as well as for the more adequate housing of the Chinese servants. These two last needs were the more pressing. When it came to be considered how they could be met, the gentlemen entrusted with the formulation of a scheme concluded that if building were to be undertaken it would be well to meet all the requirements of the case at once, and the commodious new structure is the result of their joint deliberations. This addition to the original Hall is built on its south side and makes a fine frontage on the Ice House Road. Primarily the intention was to have a one-story building only; servants' quarters and offices on the basement, with caretaker's house on the top floor. As now structurally completed, there are altogether three floors. The basement is devoted to the purpose already mentioned; the first floor is to be used as a reading-room; and on the second story is the caretaker's house.

From Ice House Road a broad flight of steps leads to the south door of the Masonic Hall, and also gives access to the basement of the annexe. The reading-room is about on a level with Ice House Road. To its entrance is gained from the street by a doorway to the left of the flight of stairs referred to. It is a spacious apartment some 50 feet long by 20 feet wide, airy and well-lighted. Reading-tables will be placed at convenient points, and besides the local daily newspapers and a varied supply of periodical literature from home there will also be a permanent library of books, of which a substantial nucleus has already been secured. Each of the Lodges will be asked to bear a proportionate part of the expenses connected with the running of the new venture, such as the electric lighting and so on, but the hope is entertained that the reading-room itself will be self-supporting; an expectation that should be fulfilled if Masonic brethren show adequate appreciation of the advantages which such an institution offers. This room communicates also with the large hall, so that it can be utilised for Lodge purposes if so desired. A lavatory is situated at the east end. The caretaker's quarters on the topmost floor are

well arranged and comfortable, consisting of four apartments—two bed-rooms and two living rooms—with kitchen and offices. It should be mentioned that the frontage of the new building will be set off with handsome iron railings, while at the top of the stone staircase will be massive gates surmounted by an arch and lamp-posts. Mr. B. Brotherton Harker was the architect.

The management of the reading-room and library devolves upon a committee of which Mr. J. J. Bryan is chairman and Mr. F. Howell secretary and treasurer. Assisted by their committee, these gentlemen are now pushing forward the furnishing and general completion of the new building, and the opening ceremony will take place, it is expected, at an early date.

DEATH OF PRINCE KOMATSU OF JAPAN.

No member of the Imperial family of Japan, probably, was more widely known to the world beyond the Land of the Rising Sun than Prince Komatsu, whose death, we regret to announce, occurred at Tokyo on the 18th inst. from apoplexy. His Imperial Highness was born in 1846, and was therefore only 57 years of age at the time of his death. In his youth the custom of his country indicated the priesthood as the only legitimate career for young scions of the Imperial family, and it appeared certain that his life would be spent as a Buddhist abbot. But the Prince's youth synchronised with the commencement of that great change in the national life of Japan which, as it has gradually developed, has become the wonder and admiration of the world. Naturally the Prince felt a keen interest in the struggle for the restoration of administrative power to the throne and the abolition of the Shogunate, and he left the priesthood to play his part in the great drama. Convinced, as he had become, that Japan's only hope lay in frankly accepting foreign intercourse, he also conceived that the best preparation for the change would be a visit to Europe. Several causes operated to restrain the young Prince from starting at once—among them being a strong objection on the part of the Court. Meanwhile he was appointed at the age of 22 to the chief command of the forces sent by the Government against the Tokugawa vassals in the north who had refused to accept the new order of things peacefully.

The Court's sanction being finally obtained for the Prince's visit to Europe, His Imperial Highness left Yokohama on a P. & O. steamer in the autumn of 1871. He was the first Japanese Prince of the blood received at the English Court, and every facility was afforded for making the Prince's stay in England pleasant and instructive. The death of his father necessitated the Prince's return to Japan at the close of the following year. During his absence the army had been reorganised, and all officers were required to go through a regular course of military training. Though the Prince had commanded an army corps in the field, and had filled the post of Minister of War, His Imperial Highness nevertheless applied at once to be drafted into the lowest rank of commissioned officers, his argument being that no results could be better than those achieved by the European system of obliging even Princes and nobles to qualify for high positions by service in the lowest. The Government, appreciating the spirit, gave the Prince a commission as sub-lieutenant. But within a few months State exigencies required that the Prince should again assume the nominal leadership of a force sent to quell an insurrection connected with the abolition of feudalism, and in the sequel of that affair he was promoted to be a major-general. The Satsuma rebellion of 1877 called him once more to the field—as a commander of the Guards Division; and throughout the arduous and sanguinary campaign in Kinshia he showed much military ability. Nine years later he visited America and Europe, and, in 1887, he represented the Mikado at Queen Victoria's Jubilee. The Prince's next important office was the command of the Guards Division in the China-Japan War of 1894-95, and during the final operations of the war he had the command-in-chief of the whole expeditionary

forces. Finally, he became chief of the general staff, but recommended the late Lieut.-General Viscount Kawakami as his successor.

It is well within the memory of most of our readers that Prince Komatsu was selected to represent Japan at King Edward's Coronation, and His Imperial Highness availed himself of the opportunity to visit most of the capitals of Europe. It was aptly observed by a writer in the *Times*, from whose biographical sketch we are indebted for the above particulars, that the Prince was not only respected but beloved in Japan, for his whole career had been one of patriotic usefulness and practical benevolence.

DR. PENTECOST AT THE CITY HALL.

ODD VOLUMES SOCIETY LECTURE.

Under the auspices of the Odd Volumes Society, Rev. George F. Pentecost, D.D., lectured in St. Andrew's (City) Hall on the 25th inst. on "The Reasonableness of Christianity." There was a large audience, the hall being completely filled.

Mr. H. E. POLLACK, K.C., who presided said, in his introductory remarks, that Dr. Pentecost intended to deal with his subject from the scientific and historic as well as from the purely religious standpoint; he was sure his observations would be listened to with every attention. (Applause.)

Dr. PENTECOST said it was a cardinal article of his own faith that if Christianity was not reasonable it was not divine, because God must be divinely reasonable. In considering the subject of the reasonableness of Christianity, they must eliminate all consideration of Christianity as it had been involved in politics or with the State, all consideration of ecclesiasticism, and, lastly, they must eliminate from the divine revelation certain ethical associations. When they came down to the naked subject, they were not dealing with a theory or a speculation, but a great confronting, historical fact, definite and distinct; not sporadic in its manifestations but continuous. Away back into the pre-patriarchal ages we found the spirit, genius and power of Christianity articulating themselves with a historical force. The man who attempted by any intellectual process to say he had determined to put himself outside of the obligation which rested upon him in respect of all the great factors in human life and history, who refused to consider Christianity, ruled himself out of the class of men and women who might be reasonably called the class of culture or intelligence. He was not there to affirm the truth of Christianity; only to show that there was nothing in Christianity that did discredit to the highest form of human reason. Christianity was based on three great collaterals. First of all was the Bible. They could not deny its existence nor could they deny that it contained the presentation of what purported to be the self-revelation of God to man, in which the idea that God had first spoken to man gradually led up to culmination of that idea in the personality of Jesus Christ, the second collateral on which Christianity was based. The historical existence of Jesus Christ was no longer denied by the critics of Christianity. But it was the belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ that had perpetuated to us His personality. You could not dissociate Jesus Christ from the Bible. He rose out of its pages from Genesis to Revelation. It was held together by His personality. In the next place, we had the third collateral on which Christianity was grounded just as clearly articulated, and that was the Church of Christ, the society of men and women who embodied Christianity. Christianity in itself seemed to be an exotic amongst all people and yet indigenous to every human heart. Dynasties might fall, but Christianity lived. It was embodied in the individual, in all literature, in art, and more or less in all the sciences, in all our social and institutional life. What was it to be a Christian? It was to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, a learner, a follower; but the Christian did more: he accepted Him and all His teachings. His example and His sovereign lordship over his ethical and spiritual life. Jesus was pre-eminently a religious teacher. Now, what was religious truth? It was that truth with which

the human heart had to do in order that it might find its way back into fellowship with God, with its Creator. But Christianity taught that Christ was not only a religious but an infallible teacher. The teachings of Jesus Christ were the statements of the truth out of His own consciousness of truth. The enormous egotism of Jesus Christ—if he might use the term—was found in no other teacher that ever lived. He spoke not as the result of thoughtful meditation, philosophic speculation, or scientific deduction, but right out of the divine consciousness. "My doctrine is not my doctrine, but the doctrine of Him that sent Me," said Jesus Christ. Man said that to believe in the infallibility of Jesus Christ was an unreasonable proposition. But infallibility was not a together unreasonable. We had attained to it in mathematics. The question lay between the infallibility of man and the infallibility of Christ. The next point was that Christ's teachings involved a revelation. Again, man said that a revelation was unreasonable. Was revelation *per se* unreasonable? Was it reasonable that the Power who created us should send us into this world with religious feelings, with that longing after God which all must admit; that God should make provision for every part, of man except the highest part, that part which every man recognised to be the highest part of him. The denial of the reasonableness of a revelation was a most unreasonable denial. It was not a reasonable thing to suppose that God would leave us without light upon the one subject which in the crisis of our being becomes the all-important subject. Looking at it from a practical point of view, there should be a revelation. And so it was left for Jesus Christ to come with a revelation; whether true or false, He pretended and assumed to satisfy us. Who is God? Jesus Christ gave us the answer. Another point which revelation involved was an admission of the supernatural. What did that imply? It meant that God, who made and endowed the world, is still the transcendent master. Christianity had broken down the naturally haughty intellect of man, had found its way not only into the hearts of men but had taken possession of the leaders of human thought, and to-day it commended itself to the reason of man, because it had not contradicted reason but had simply transcended reason. (Applause.)

The CHAI MAN moved a vote of thanks to Dr. Pentecost for his very able and convincing lecture. (Applause.) He was sure the audience shared with him in regretting that that would probably be the last lecture they would have from Dr. Pentecost for some time here, as he was leaving for Canton. He had set them all a very good example of strenuousness. He had held a great many meetings in the Colony during his short presence and they would all agree that he had at all times and in all places taught them the highest as it had been revealed to him. (Applause.)

The meeting then dispersed.

THE CITY HALL.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of shareholders in and subscribers to the City Hall was held on Thursday afternoon in that building. The Hon. C. W. Dickson (chairman) presided, and there were also present Hon. C. S. Sharp, Messrs. N. A. Sieb, B. Layton, H. N. Mody, and F. B. L. Bowley (secretary).

The annual report for the year ended 30th June, 1902, was submitted as follows:—

COMMITTEE.

The Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving resigned the post of Chairman on his leaving the Colony in May last, and the Hon. C. W. Dickson filled the vacancy. The Hon. C. S. Sharp was elected on the 23rd December, 1901, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. H. B. Pollock, K.C.; and the latter has since rejoined the Committee. Mr. H. Hursthouse acted as Secretary in May and June during Mr. Bowley's absence.

STATE OF THE BUILDING.

In August, 1901, the interior of the building was redecorated, the electric light extended to the entrance hall, staircase, corridors, Chamber of Commerce, and card room, and the doors of the Museum glazed, at a cost of \$2,620. The

usual annual examination of the building was made by the architects, Messrs. Palmer and Turner, in June, 1902, and the floors of the S. George's and S. Andrew's Halls were found to be quite sound. A few minor repairs necessitated by white ants were effected. The amount spent on ordinary repairs during the twelve months ending 30th June, 1902, was \$1,69.91.

THEATRE, &c.

During the year ending 30th June the theatre was let to the Amateur Dramatic Club, Mr. Dallas, the Australian Vaudeville Company, the Empire Comedy Company, Messrs Coghill and Sutton, Baroffski's Circus Company, the Twentieth Century Entertainers, and others. The electric lighting of the stage has now been satisfactorily completed, but the cost of installing the light does not fall into the period under review. The S. George's and S. Andrew's Halls and the rest of the ball-room suite were let for numerous dances, concerts and meetings, and their use was granted free of rent for bazaars and other charitable purposes. The use of the whole building was granted to the Coronation Committee for the children's tea on 28th June. The rent receipts of the theatre and halls, &c., show an increase of \$1340.31 on last year.

THE LIBRARY.

The use of the library as a free reading-room and chess-room has been maintained, and the free lending collection was well patronised. 35 books published in Hongkong were deposited in the Library, and 220 books were presented to the lending collection, bringing it up to 790 vols. Newspapers and periodicals have been kindly presented by members of the Committee, by Mr. H. A. Allen, Mr. Barton, Mr. Bowley, Mr. H. A. Ritchie, Mr. H. E. Tomkins, and the Hongkong Club, and by the proprietors of the local newspapers and of the *Government Gazette*. The number of visitors to the Library during the 12 months was 11,338 non-Chinese and 5,033 Chinese; the number of ticket holders for the lending collection was 103 on 30th June, 1902.

MUSEUM.

The only important gift to the museum during the twelve-month was a very interesting and valuable collection of the land and freshwater shells of Hongkong and China, kindly presented by Dr. C. Gerlach. Sundry specimens were also presented by Commodore Powell, R.N., Messrs. O. Ford, J. M. Forbes, Fullerton, C. H. Gale, E. F. Gibson, A. Haupt, E. J. Hughes, J. Mossop, H. E. Pollock, St. Leon Guerrero, J. Wacker, J. Witchell, and Mrs. Robinson. The museum was visited by 3,152 non-Chinese and 80,276 Chinese.

ACCOUNTS.

The balance in the hands of the Hon. Treasurer when the accounts up to 30th June, 1902, were closed, was \$6,247.21. The reserve fund on fixed deposit in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is \$13,542.55. The expenditure exceeded the ordinary receipts (excluding amount brought forward and interest on fixed deposit) by \$156.15.

The CHAIRMAN in moving the adoption of the report and accounts said—Gentlemen, The report and statement of accounts which have been circulated I propose we take as read. During the period under review there has been a considerable increase in the rent of the theatre, but on the other hand increased usage has necessitated heavier expenditure to make good wear and tear. The introduction of electric light on the stage is much appreciated by all whom choice or profession call behind the footlights. Ordinary revenue has been sufficient to meet the expenditure on redecoration and electric lighting undertaken in 1901, and there is a considerable balance available for the carrying out of much-needed improvements in the seating and lighting of the theatre, sanitary conveniences, extension of library and museum, &c., &c. Ordinary expenses have increased owing to lower sterling exchange, and to meet this rents have since been raised all round. The books of the late Hongkong Subscription Library have recently been presented to the lending collection in the City Hall, and as soon as the catalogue (which is now in hand) is completed, an interesting collection of books will be available to those of the public of Hongkong who wish to become borrowers. The free lending

collection, the initiation and the development of which is due to the liberality and public-spiritedness of Mr. H. E. Pollock (applause), increases in popularity and will it is hoped meet a long-felt want. The City Hall is not as yet a dividend-paying concern, but so long as the receipts from the Theatre and ball-rooms are sufficient to pay for the upkeep of the building and the maintenance of the library and museum, which are both open free to the public but have no endowment, the institution may be regarded as fulfilling its purpose. I beg to move the adoption of the report and accounts. (Applause) Mr. N. A. SIEBS seconded, and the motion was unanimously agreed to.

This was all the business.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 23rd February.

EXAMINATION METHODS.

The examination which was held here in the examination buildings on Saturday last, for a degree answering approximately to a B.A. in England, presents several features of interest. It was announced that the doors would be opened at 2 a.m., and shortly before that time the majority of the candidates, who numbered over three thousand, had put in an appearance before the doors. However the examiner at the last moment found the hour inconvenient and gave notice that the candidates would have to wait until 11 a.m. to come in, and so while those who lived near went back home those who came from a distance had perforce to wait there until the doors were opened. This delay made it a matter of great difficulty for the candidates to finish their essays, for all had to be completed before dark, no lights being allowed. The questions were miscellaneous and comprehensive. There were certainly some giving evidence of increasing interest in external affairs; among these may be mentioned one asking whether the philosophy of Bacon or of Descartes was more likely to regenerate China; another, whether it was advisable that soldiers should be lent to the Hongkong steamboat companies for their protection; and, lastly, at what points and in what manner could Russia invade India. Books are now allowed in all examinations, since it was found impossible to stop "cribbing," and the bribes which were paid did not come to the Head Examiner, but stayed in the pockets of the minor officials.

MILITARY ACTIVITY.

There are other signs of awakening here, for several Krupp guns have been brought in and placed on the walls, and the drilling of the troops according to foreign methods is proceeding apace. The martial sound of bugles is heard continually, and it must certainly be said that discipline is stricter and the bearing of the troops more soldier-like than was the case a year ago. It may also be added that ten thousand new troops are being raised here, in addition to the five thousand additional police ordered by the Prefect.

AMOY.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Amoy, 23rd February.

We have had visits from several men-of-war lately. The *Furber Bismarck* gave a musical entertainment in the Club Theatre to which all residents were invited. A few days later the *Hansa* gave a similar entertainment which was much appreciated by all lovers of music. The proceeds were devoted to the Amoy Chinese Hospital. The *Albion*, *Cressy*, *Eclipse* and *Fearless* are with us now. They have played several hockey matches with the Amoy team. The *Albion* gave a dramatic performance on the 21st inst., *Princess Zolah*, or *The Love of the Rajah of Tittipom*, a satire on a well-known opera. The programme was carried through in first-class style, and it was a pity there was not a larger audience. This was also for the benefit of the Hospital.

This spring will see a good many changes in our community: several families are leaving for home.

To-night the Bachelors are giving a dance; let us hope it will be more successful than the Race one.

FOOCHOW.

Foochow, 14th February.

Foochow has been visited this week by Vice-Admiral Geissler. The *Furber Bismarck* being unable to come up the river by reason of her great draught of water was met at Matsui by the gunboat *Jaguar*, and the Admiral steamed to Pagoda in her. His Excellency was accompanied by Capt. Bachmann (Chief of Staff) and Capt. Lieut. Taetke, also by Captain Wilbrandt of the *Jaguar*. During his stay, he and his officers have been the guests of Mr. G. Siemssen, the German Consul.

Mr. William Graham, one of our oldest residents and at the same time one of the most popular and most highly respected members of the community, left this port on Wednesday last. There was a large gathering of his friends and a host of Chinese at Ewo jetty on Tuesday night to see the last of him and wish him God-speed. Against the general regret that is felt at his severing himself from us there is the assurance that it is for his advancement in life. He has gone to the land of millionaires, where there will be more scope for the exercise of his undoubted abilities as a man of business than there is at this outport, and he has the hearty good wishes of this community for success in his new work.

A ghostlike assemblage gathered at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank yesterday night. Eerie and weird was the effect of a silent dance, the dancers arrayed in the "latest thing" in bed linen, and one was reminded of Professor Davis's séance or Maskelyne and Cook. This Lancers opened one of the brightest and jolliest dances Foochow has ever seen. Every detail was carried out to perfection, one special feature of the dance being the band of the *Furber Bismarck* which came up from Matsui for the occasion through the kindness of Admiral Geissler. Dancing to this band, on a good floor, with every accompaniment conducive to pure enjoyment was indeed a treat for our out-of-the-world little port, and the genial host, Mr. Rickett, is much to be felicitated on the success of his dance.

Professor Zimoni, a conjurer of more than every-day proficiency, gave two entertainments at the Theatre on Tuesday.—*Foochow Echo*.

NEWCHWANG.

Newchwang, 9th February.

The Russians are said to have received telegraphic news from Peking that the Empress Dowager is dead.

THE ICE-FREE PORT.

We hear that Dainy harbour was frozen over a few days ago.

OBITUARY.

Ming, formerly Taotai at this port, who had the courage to disobey his orders and co-operate in maintaining order in 1900, died at Shachai-kwan on or about 30th January. The name of his successor has not yet transpired.

COMMERCIAL NEWS.

Export prices are high not only here but up-country, and Chinese think they will be maintained during the coming season.

The Americans may withdraw their hostile criticism of our commercial treaty when they realise that *lekin* stations, numerous as crabs and poisonous as scorpions, are lying in wait wherever in Manchuria imports may be sold or exports bought.—*N.-C. Daily News*.

On her 70th birthday next year the Empress Dowager of China should receive a present of 100 golden Buddhas, the same thing having been done (as the *N.-C. Daily News* explains) upon the attainment of the seventieth birthday anniversaries of the Emperors K'ang Hsi and Chien Lung. Then the weight of the golden Buddhas was no less than, say, fifty taels weight each, but the impoverished state of the exchequer in Peking and the exceedingly high price of pure gold preclude this at the present day, and so it has been suggested that from their ancestral hoard and the golden hoards of their husbands, Manchu and Mongol Princesses and Daughters shall contribute the precious metal for the casting of the Buddhas in question, but, of course of a size much smaller than those made over two centuries ago.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE CURRENCY MEETING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 21st February, 1903.

SIR,—In your leading article on the currency meeting in to-day's issue, in attempting to account for the discrepancy between the show of hands and the numbers of the cards voted against the resolution, you fall into an error in apparently supposing that one person had three or four votes. The companies managed by firms were represented by the chief executive officer, unless I am mistaken. This is the condition under which they joined the Chamber, as I ought to know, having been instrumental in inducing most of them to become members. Moreover, those local companies having a large stake in the Colony should be represented in the Chamber, and if their representative for the time being does not voice the opinions of the majority of the shareholders it is a matter to be regretted, but I do not see how it is to be avoided.—Yours, etc.,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX.

RACING IN HONGKONG.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 24th February.

SIR,—Your sporting contributor "Ompax" hit the right nail on the head when he stated that in his opinion the accumulation of horses in the leading stable acted prejudicially to the interest in several events. "Ompax" asks why the Stewards of the Jockey Club give no indication of the nature of the April Meeting. The fact of the matter is that water-racing received such a severe blow at the recent meeting that owners have nearly all disposed of their animals for Manila, or polo, and the general opinion, freely expressed, is that Mr. Master, the man who at Jockey Club meetings talks so glibly about "sport" and "inducements being offered to owners to keep ponies over," has, by his action on several occasions at the past Meeting in sending out two ponies both good enough to win, thus securing first and second money, done more to kill sport in Hongkong than he is probably aware of. His action in bringing out two of his own ponies on the Off-Day for the Cosmopolitan Stakes, while keeping *Legacy* in the stable, bears only one construction in the minds of real sportsmen, and instead of any interest in the April Meeting there appears to be a desire on the part of owners to have no share in what would probably result in walks-over. Owners of one or two animals who race for mere sport or amusement, and who cannot give it very serious attention, know that they cannot hold their own against a private training establishment, and the recent uninteresting events "Ompax" refers to will have done more to persuade racing men to revert to the China pony than all Mr. Master's eloquence in favour of the water can convince them to the contrary.—Yours, etc.,

OLD OAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 25th February.

SIR,—In the interests of sport and good fellowship I much regret to see in your issue of to-day a very spiteful anonymous letter signed "Old Oar," which reads to me as the outpouring of a deeply disappointed mind. I also regret that I have to write publicly upon private matters, and am only constrained to do so by a sense of plain duty. It is stated that Mr. Master kept *Legacy* in the stable instead of running her in the Cosmopolitan Stakes, the apparent imputation being that he sacrificed her chances to those of his own animals. I must presume that "Old Oar" knows that I and not Mr. Master am her owner. Mr. Master has never exercised the slightest control over the running of the animal, which was left entirely to me. The facts as to her not running in the Cosmopolitan Stakes are as follows: I did not discuss the matter with Mr. Master, in fact I did not see him to speak to from the time of the race for the Water

hampion Stakes until the Cosmopolitan Stakes had been run. On the Friday I saw his stableman at my business chambers and hearing that Mr. Master was going to ride one of his own, told him as I thought the field would be a large one and that there would be a difficulty in getting a jockey, I did not intend to run *Legacy* in the Cosmopolitan Stakes. I was unable to go to the course in the early morning of Saturday and was engaged on important business during the whole of the forenoon, so could not make any enquiries as to likely runners. Had I been able to attend to racing affairs and known that the field was likely to be a small one, I should probably have run the mare, for as I learned, when too late, I should have been able to avail myself of the services of a gentleman whom I would gladly have put up. As "Old Oar" seems to imagine that I am in leading strings, it is perhaps advisable to state that this letter is not written at Mr. Master's request or suggestion.—Yours, etc.,

T. MORGAN PHILLIPS.

"THE CLOUD ON THE HORIZON."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 25th February.

SIR,—One or two points in your leader on my letter under the above heading seem to require comment in order to avoid misunderstanding. Passing over the facts that Sir Robert Hart's statement that in fifty years Boxers would "threaten the world's future" (*sic*) might legitimately be taken as suggesting "Chauvinistic ideas of universal conquest," and that anyone who has been shut up within the walls of Peking for a third of a century need not necessarily "know so much of China," it seems necessary to explain that when I wrote that Sir Robert Hart applauded the "Boxer volunteers" to "save his daily bread," I did not intend to imply that the Inspector-General would have starved had matters turned out as he feared they would do, but that his craft would be in danger, since it can scarcely be doubted that either the partition of China or the establishment of free trade—one or other of which might as likely as not have been the result of the Chinese anti-foreign uprising of 1900—would involve the abolition of the Customs service over which he presides. Your contention that Sir Robert Hart "wrote in a tone of warning to the Western powers, not of encouragement to China," seems to me to be disproved by contemplation of the whole matter from the beginning. Having paid careful attention to this amongst other cases of assistance being rendered to the Chinese by foreigners, either perennially or as occasion required, and the dire results both to China and foreigners often accruing therefrom, and having had exceptional opportunities of forming what I feel sure is a correct view of the matter, I think that the following will be found to be the true history of the particular instance which was given, as an example, in my first letter:—

1. The exultant tone of Sir Robert Hart's first telegram stating that the "Legations have been ordered to leave Peking within 24 hours" (in contrast to the despairing tone of his "situation desperate" of a few days later), indicated that he thought he would be allowed to remain in Peking, and it seems only natural that he contemplated without aversion the prospect of occupying the proud position of mediator in the restoration of the *status quo ante bellum*. Instead of that, however, he had to flee for his life to the protection of the British Legation.

2. Three months later, when civilisation had proved victorious over savagery, Sir Robert Hart, fearing that so heinous and unprecedented a crime as that just committed by the Chinese Government could not but meet with the punishment it deserved, involving perhaps the partition of China as a result either of the agreement or disagreement of the Powers, set about doing what he could to persuade the world in general that China's offence should be "condoned." Volunteering being at the time very popular in England, he called the Boxers "volunteers," thinking that this description of them would—agreeing as it did with what just then happened to be "the thing"—meet with approbation, and that people who were shouting up volunteering

in England would be equally inclined to shout up volunteering in any shape or form—even Boxer volunteering. This was his great misjudgment (due, I think, to his having long ago lost touch with the West), and had very serious consequences, because instead of it turning out that the British public were influenced in favour of the Chinese "volunteers," it turned out that they regarded Sir Robert Hart as a pro-Boxer, and he has not only been so regarded ever since, but has become hopelessly identified with the anti-foreign party in China.

3. Having taken this unfortunate step and being landed in this unfortunate situation, Sir Robert Hart's only way out of the mire was to plunge right through it, and he accordingly threw himself heart and soul into the Chinese cause, even going so far as to make such absurd suggestions as the abolition of extraterritoriality in a country whose officials do not even treat their own nationals with justice (I could give innumerable instances), and talking about the "privilege" of trade, and using other phrases which are not thus used by civilised powers.

The whole matter is after all but another instance added to many of Sir Robert Hart's inability to prophecy correctly. The important part of it, however, is not what one man thought or did, but the general question of the assistance of various kinds, sometimes lifelong, sometimes merely temporary, but no less potent, given to a nation like the Chinese without any guarantee that the strength thus obtained will not be employed in violating the *sanctum sanctorum* of international law to the danger of foreigners living in China, the burdening of China with heavy indemnities, the dislocation of trade, and the general retarding of civilisation. All pro-Chinese apologists of the type of Sir Robert Hart have to get over the awkward fact that a nation which, unlike the Japanese, has remained in a state of slumbering inactivity for many centuries, cannot be suddenly placed on the same level with those who have been occupying those centuries in doing the useful work of the world—either by writing to the magazines or in any other way.

It was to call attention to this aspect of the matter that I wrote my first letter, and I am glad to see that you consider it a point "which must by no means be passed over" in consideration of the very difficult problems which remain to be solved before Chinese relations with the rest of the world can assume a satisfactory form.

Pressure of work has prevented me from sending this letter sooner.—Yours, &c.,

ANTI-HUMBUG.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LD.

THE PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME REPEATED.

The ordinary yearly meeting of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., was held on the 23rd inst. in the offices of the Company, Queen's Buildings. Mr. D. E. Brown (chairman) presided and there were also present Mr. N. A. Siebs, Hon. C. W. Dickson, Messrs. C. Michelau and E. Goetz, Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. G. H. Lewis, G. A. Medhurst (directors), W. B. Dixon (chief manager), G. A. Caldwell (secretary), A. V. Apcer, A. K. E. Arculli, H. F. Carmichael, Chan Shek Ku, J. A. Chinoy, Chow Hing Ki, Chau Siu Ki, W. E. Clarke, C. S. Coy, W. A. O. Cruickshank, W. Danby, W. H. T. Davis, Albert Denison, H. M. S. H. Esmail, R. M. Ezekiel, E. Ezra, Fok Yin Shek, Fong Tze Chit, J. A. Fredericks, C. W. Georg, E. Georg, A. R. Gubbay, David Haskell, Han Chuck Tin, E. A. Hewett, E. H. Hinds, Ho Fook, Ho Kom Tong, Ho Shai Wing, Henry Humphreys, W. M. Humphreys, E. S. Joseph, Kwok Pui Choo, Lam Kin Fan, J. J. Leiria, Leung Kam Hung, Leung Tit Shan, Li Cheong Pung, Li Oi Ting, Li Sui Sang, Li Yik Sun, Ling Ki, Lo Cheung, Ip, Lo Cheung Shiu, I. P. Madar, J. B. Michael, M. H. Michael, S. H. Michael, S. J. Michael, It. Mitchell, A. G. Morris, E. J. Moss, W. Parlane, Poo A. Ching, Pan Choo Ting, C. W. Richards, A. Ritchie, Capt. T. Rowan, E. W. Rutter, E. A. Savin, C. H. Thompson, R. Unsworth, Wong Liu Tai, Wong Man Hon, Wong Tso, Wong U Tzu, Yeung Chit Sam, Yiu Ka.

The SECRETARY having read the notice calling the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, The report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for some time, I will, with your permission, take them as read. The net profit for the last half-year of 1902 is \$363,614. 5; adding to this the amount of \$263,392.69 brought forward from the previous account, the amount available for appropriation, after deducting directors' and auditors' fees, is \$616,256.84, which your directors recommend to be distributed as follows:—That a dividend for the half-year of 10 per cent. and a bonus of 2 per cent.—say \$6 per share (making \$13, or 26 per cent. in all for the year), absorbing \$300,000, be paid to shareholders, and a bonus of \$20,000 to contributing shareholders (who I may mention have contributed over 70 per cent. of the gross earnings); that \$100,000 be written off the value of the Company's properties, distributed as follows:—\$75,000 from the Kowloon works, \$15,000 from the Cosmopolitan works, and \$10,000 from floating plant, absorbing in all \$420,000, leaving to be carried forward to new account \$196,256.84, or \$67,135.85 less than the previous half-year. This division of profits your directors trust will commend itself to shareholders. Some may question the advisability of continuing to write off large sums every six months, but your directors feel that provision should be made, when possible, from the earnings, to cover expenditure entailed by our general improvement scheme. Our already large overdraft at the Bank should not be lost sight of, nor the fluctuations our business is subject to, liability to heavy loss from typhoons, and the contingency of keen competition in the future. Although there has been a falling off in the docking and painting of British and foreign warships during the period under review of about 25 per cent. in the former and 20 per cent. in the latter, and an almost total absence of any very extensive repairs which necessitated ships occupying the docks for long periods, there has been a corresponding increase in the ordinary docking and repairs to merchant ships. Owing to the smaller sum carried forward the amount available for appropriation is, \$166,573.61 less than the preceding six months, but revenue shows a falling off of only between \$9,000 and \$10,000, and it is this fact, in conjunction with the prospects for the first half of this year, that has influenced your directors in recommending an appropriation to shareholders of \$6 per share. The expenditure on additions and improvements has been heavy, amounting to \$556,224.24, including \$231,506 on floating plant, and your directors trust that the small sum of \$100,000 written off the Company's properties will not be considered out of proportion, bearing in mind that it is their aim to provide out of earnings the cost of carrying out the general scheme of improvements now well under way, and which will not be completed for another couple of years. In connection with the expenditure on improvements, &c., you will note that, in addition to what has been done and mentioned in previous reports, three powerful electrically-driven cranes—one for each of the embayments of our new engine works—have been added during the last six months and at work for some time, greatly facilitating the erection and transporting of the machinery for the Canton River steamer *Kinsan* under construction, and also facilitating other work. The cranes are the largest item in the improvement account; the completion of the engine works being next, the amount expended on the latter being absorbed in completion of roofing, plastering, and glazing, flooring of basement, laying rails, &c., and also the erection of an intermediate floor at the upper end of the west bay for a brass-finishing shop, still in progress. Regarding the hydraulic and compressed air installations, the latter especially has been extended, and a quantity of new tools, such as caulkers, riveters, and drills, and a number of these are now at work removing rivets from the bottom of the transport *Sherman*. It is only by modernizing our works and placing ourselves in a position to meet the demands made on us at a minimum of cost that we can continue to compete with the opposition concerns springing up around us. Our chief manager is confident that, when our improvements are completed, and the whole of our plant

is electrically driven, the same amount of work as now produced can be done on less than half the present water and coal consumption for driving the machinery throughout the yard. subsidiary economies will also follow by the grouping of machines under various motors, &c. It is, consequently, your directors' intention to proceed with the electric-drive for the engine works, and the yard and dock lighting, with as little delay as possible, now that a satisfactory site has been selected for the new power station, some of the materials for which, viz., for two new boilers, are now here, and we expect to have the engine and dynamo plant delivered complete by the time that the boiler plant is laid down. Regarding the landslip in July last at the back of our new forge building, mentioned in our last report, when several thousand tons of earth and boulders came down and overwhelmed our new large steam hammer, I am glad to inform you that the whole of that enormous obstruction has been removed, the hill behind cut down and made safe for the future, the hammer set up and in working order again. Reverting again to the amounts proposed to be written off your various properties, the distribution suggested will leave same standing in our books as follows:—The Kowloon Docks at \$1,831,420.54, the Cosmopolitan Dock at \$300,797.70, and the floating plant at \$420,006, as against \$1,788,500, \$309,400, and \$297,600, respectively, at the close of the first half of the year. The large increase to our floating plant is attributable to the additions of the new tug *Robert Cooke* and the dredger *Canton River*, which latter vessel we have every reason to believe will prove a valuable asset, as she has, after having been thoroughly repaired, been temporarily chartered to Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, and is at present at work at their new dock entrance and has recently demonstrated her capability of dredging over 2,000 tons per day of 12 hours. The tug *Robert Cooke* is now in daily use, and although twice as powerful, is as easily handled as the *Fame*. Reverting to the item of material on hand which stands at fully \$25,000 more than the previous six months, I would state this includes the material, amounting to about \$225,000, imported for and already worked into the Canton River steamer *Kinsan*, so that, when this item is deducted, the material on hand will stand at a much decreased figure. Insurances have been completely adjusted and extended somewhat so as to cover the more destructible articles of our stores, and some extension of our fire service has been made on this account at our Kowloon Dockyard. During the period under review we have had to face one or two items which had an adverse bearing on our profits. At the end of July we were confronted with a strike of carpenters, who demanded an increase of 30 per cent. in wages as a condition of their returning to work. This Company, in conjunction with other employers of such labour in the Colony, resisted the demand, and upon representations made to the Government the ring-leaders of the guilds who instituted the movement and had been intimidating the men were deported from the Colony, the result being that, after some weeks absence, the men returned to work. The united employers concerned, thereupon, as an incentive to good behaviour, voluntarily promised an increase of 10 per cent. from the 1st of February, 1903, the beginning of the China New Year. There have been also during the past half-year increases in the cost of paints, timber, &c., which affected our receipts. In the case, however, of all contracts for material ordered from home, exchange was secured at the rates upon which our tenders were based, and you may rest assured that this highly important factor of exchange will continue to exercise the attention of your directors. The Canton River steamer *Kinsan*, mentioned in our last report as under construction for the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Company, was, as you are aware, successfully launched on January 10th last, since which time her engines and boilers have been placed on board and work on her is rapidly approaching completion. It is expected that she will take her trial-trips next month in time for her date of delivery, when the fourth and last instalment on her contract price will become due; the first three instalments having already been paid, demonstrates that the work done on her up to the present is satisfactory to her

future owners. About the only other item I can think of that requires mention is the proposed inauguration of a provident fund for the benefit of the Company's European staff. It has, as you are aware, been our custom in past years, when results were favourable, to vote a bonus to the European staff, which we had has averaged 13 per cent. of their salaries, but as this system has not worked to the satisfaction of the directors, inasmuch as it has not, in the past, prevented the Company being called upon in several cases to render pecuniary assistance to employees terminating their connection with the Company, they concluded that some arrangement such as outlined in the report would be more advantageous to all concerned, and the proposal is now submitted for your confirmation or otherwise. Before closing, you will all feel glad, I am sure, to hear that our returns for the months of January and February are encouraging. Our establishments are all full of work and we have every reason to look forward with some degree of confidence to the results of the current half-year, and I may say that the demand on us for dock accommodation has been such that we could not meet it, owing principally to our No. 1 Dock being occupied by the American transport *Sherman* undergoing extensive repairs below water. This vessel is likely to remain in dock some weeks longer, whereby the periodical docking of several large ships of our regular customers cannot unfortunately be undertaken. In this connection it will interest you to know that during the first half of 1902 the No. 1 Dock was unoccupied only on the average 6.83 days per month, and during the six months under review, only an average of 5.83 days per month, including Sundays and time used in pumping down the dock for laying special blocks for some ships. The American *Mara*, by lightening, managed to get her painting done at Aberdeen, where, however, as you know, heavy repairs cannot be executed; and the Cosmopolitan Dock, as you also know, is too narrow and too shallow for that size ships. To improve matters, however, and to relieve the pressure, your directors have authorized the widening of the entrance to the inner Cosmopolitan Dock at the lower level, at a small outlay, to give greater margin in docking ships having bilge keels, such as the *Kaga Mara*. We have also, since the 1st January, received orders for two large steam lighters for the Norddeutscher Lloyd, very similar to those built in 1901, and have also three good-sized steam-launches on order. I trust that my remarks cover all the items in the report on which shareholders may require information and that the showing may be regarded as satisfactory. I will, however, before moving the adoption of the report and accounts, be glad to answer, as far as I am able, any questions concerning same.

Mr. J. R. MICHAEL—With reference to the inauguration of a provident fund recommended by the directors, do you propose, Mr. Chairman, to put it to the vote?

The CHAIRMAN—It is part of the report and accounts which are brought before the shareholders to-day for their consideration. If there is no objection it might be omitted in the passing of the report.

Mr. MICHAEL—Suppose we moved that it be not passed, would that mean that the report and accounts would not be passed?

The CHAIRMAN—No; we will treat that separately.

Mr. J. A. FREDERICKS—In the accounts, Mr. Chairman, legal expenses and contingent liabilities are put down at \$16,889 whereas in the report for the first six months of 1902 legal expenses are put down at only \$1,639. Can you tell me what extraordinary occurrence was taking place in connection with the Dock Company that would justify the expenditure of \$6,000 more than was spent under the same head in the first half of the year, and what these expenses represent? Then I wish to put another question as to the steamer *Kinsan*. There is a rumour current that the Company has not made any money on the building of that steamer. Another item I should desire some information upon is that in the report for the first half of the year there was no bonus to contributing shareholders. Can you tell me whether the bonus now proposed is justified by the earnings?

The CHAIRMAN (after a pause)—There being no other questions, gentlemen, I would explain

that the first item concerning which a question is asked, contingent liability, includes an account from Messrs. Houston & Kidd, civil engineers, for work done since the year 1900. They were first employed during the days of our former chief manager, and as there appears to have been a considerable amount of work done prior to the time that most of the present members of the Board had any dealings with it, and the account was not rendered in such a condition as to warrant your present Board in approving the same, the matter has been held in abeyance for settlement during the present period, and will no doubt receive the earnest consideration of your directors. With regard to the profit on the *Kinshan*, I think your able chief manager and the staff are not likely to take a contract unless there is going to be a profit. Concerning the amount of \$20,000 to contributing shareholders, this is spread over the whole year. Nothing was voted during the first half of the year, but at the end of the second half we voted \$20,000 to extend over the whole year. I may mention that during the second half of the year shareholders contributed over 70 per cent. of the gross earnings, and I find that this was also the case during the first half of the year.

Mr. FREDERICKS—Will you kindly give me a more definite answer as regards the manager and the staff not taking contracts on which no money was made? Your answer was not very definite.

The CHAIRMAN—I must rule you a little bit out of order there in asking the directors to say in public meeting whether or not they have ever undertaken work on which a loss resulted. There are certain items of business with every concern that are not made public (hear, hear), and I think the majority of the shareholders present will agree with me that there are certain items, especially, surrounded as we are with such a field of competition, connected with the inner workings of our concern that for our benefit should be kept to ourselves. By "ourselves" I mean you, gentlemen, and there is no reason why any individual shareholder should not go to the office at any time and get information that he would personally like for his own information, of course, and not for publication in the Press or to the detriment of the Company.

Mr. FREDERICKS—Do you mean that if you come here to enquire into this, you will have access to the books?

The CHAIRMAN—No, sir.

Mr. FREDERICKS—Will any such information be given privately?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, sir; if you undertake not to publish it, and the balance of the members of the Board are satisfied that they can give you the information without detriment to the Company.

Mr. FREDERICKS—But it seems to me that you indicated in your first answer that there was a profit made on the *Kinshan*.

The CHAIRMAN—The steamer is not completed yet. Something might happen. We might lose a lot of money if a serious accident happened.

Mr. FREDERICKS—But barring accidents?

The CHAIRMAN—Barring accidents, I think we are fairly safe. I think I intimated that.

Mr. FREDERICKS—Yes, so you did, but I only wanted to know whether or not you did make any profit.

There being no further remarks on the report and accounts,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, I beg to move the adoption of the report and accounts. As some members may like the item of the provident fund disposed of separately, my motion will be the adoption of the report and accounts, leaving out the question of the provident fund.

Mr. H. HUMPHREYS—I beg to second the motion. It seems to me that there is very little required from me in the way of comment. The proposal to inaugurate a provident fund should commend itself to shareholders, and I trust the same idea which prompted the movement will influence the directors in seeing that no unnecessary extravagance or unnecessary expenditure is carried on in the Dock itself. (Applause.)

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. J. B. MICHAEL—We have very carefully considered the report and accounts submitted

to us, and there is no gainsaying the fact that they are very disappointing; they are the worst we have had for several years. Even in 1898 when our capital was nearly a million dollars less than it is now, we had better returns. Our profits were \$1,013,000 and \$892,000 respectively, against the \$737,000, which the accounts of 1902 show us to-day with exchange 30 per cent. lower than in those years. Bearing in mind that meanwhile the business of the Company has increased to a considerable extent, the fact that you could not do better now than show us such poor results implies that there is "something rotten in the State of Denmark"; there must be mismanagement somewhere, and we think it is your duty to find out on whose shoulders the responsibility rests, and to put an end to this miserable state of affairs. If all we hear is true, the management and the staff are all at sixes and sevens. We have a well-trying staff who, under the capable management of the late Mr. Gillies, worked harmoniously and contentedly to the great benefit and advantage of the Company. All this seems to be altered now. We have had several resignations, thereby losing in some instances the services of old experienced servants, who were, so to speak, most valuable assets of the Company. We shareholders feel that all these things must be enquired into and explained, and we hope the directors will take this task in hand seriously as soon as possible. There is one matter upon which the shareholders will be glad to receive some information. I refer to the case of the *Marie Jepsen*. It seems that through carelessness on the part of somebody in the employ of the Dock Co. we were let in for a large loss. Can the directors enlighten us as to the amount of our loss? And who is the person to blame? With regard to the proposal for a provident fund, in the face of such mismanagement as we think must exist, it cannot commend itself for acceptance. The European staff is well paid. Some think that one of them at least, is far too well paid. They are an intelligent body of men, well able to look after themselves, and know exactly what to spend and what to save, and if they do not, it is not our fault. There is no need of making this grandmotherly provision for them, and the present occasion is certainly not the right one for considering it. Rather let us as in the past pay a bonus to the staff when we have a good-half year. It is folly to bind ourselves and our successors to this extra outlay. One suggestion I should like to make to the directors: seeing that we are paying a great portion of our expenses in gold, it seems to me very desirable that our charges and tenders should be placed on a similar basis. Though rather late in the day, it will protect us from losses through a drop in exchange between the time of presentation of our bills and that of payment, and it will further enable shipowners to make a more ready comparison of the cost of the work done here with that of work done in Japan and at home. I strongly urge this upon the consideration of our directors.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Michael and gentlemen, The remarks you have made, which do not deal directly with the question we are now considering, namely, a provident fund for the European staff, will no doubt receive the attention of the directors for the future. I think I am safe in telling you, however, that in a good many of the items you have mentioned what you fear and also what you state is not correct. The matter of making our charges on a sterling basis is a matter which, as I mentioned in my speech, has been receiving for some time, and will continue to receive, the serious consideration of your directors, and as we are all shareholders, too, I think your directors will give the matter such serious consideration as will result in the best interests of the Company. I may say that some of our contracts, taken where the contractors lived outside the Colony, have been made in sterling. For instance, the two new large steam lighters we have under construction, which I mentioned in my speech, were contracted for in sterling. With regard to the unfortunate accident to the *Marie Jepsen*, as the result of the typhoon, I do not know that any of us here are responsible for the typhoon, or possibly the ability or the opportunity being given us to avoid the damage that occurred to that vessel. The result was that there was a loss to the Company—a small loss; it was under \$5,000, notwithstanding

the fact that the ship had to be kept—a valuable ship like that—under repairs for so much longer, as the result of the accident. Now, with regard to the provident fund, you made a statement that it was going to prove more burdensome to the Company than continuing as we have in the past. On looking back, I see that we began paying our staff bonuses in the year 1895; that was the first year in which we paid them a bonus. We paid them a bonus that year of \$20,000; that amounted to 15 per cent. of their salaries. In 1896, the next year, we paid a bonus of \$20,500, which also amounted to 15 per cent. of their salaries. In 1897 we did not feel we were justified in paying any bonus, but in 1898 we paid them a bonus of \$21,500, and that amounted to 15 per cent. of their salaries. In 1899 we paid them a bonus of 12 per cent. on their salaries, in 1900 of 11 per cent., and in 1901 of 10 per cent. on their salaries. Your directors after considering the matter very carefully, and not settling it at one meeting, for our deliberations extended over three or four months, decided that it would be more satisfactory to all concerned, if it was satisfactory to the employees, to have a provident fund that would enable us to render some assistance and be ourselves possibly in no worse position than before, but in a better position, inasmuch as there would be no excuse then for employees, in terminating their services with the Company, in indigent circumstances, coming to us and asking for pecuniary assistance, as has been the case in the past. It is on account of this that the directors selected this as the best way out of the difficulty, but it is for you here to-day, gentlemen, to decide, and if there is anyone else who would like to make a few remarks on the subject before I put the matter to the meeting, we will be glad to hear them.

Mr. MICHAEL—The mere fact that you admit that we, the shareholders, have been so liberal in giving bonuses in good years to the employees is in itself a guarantee that we are always willing to give a bonus in good years, but not with miserable accounts like these. Our exchange has gone down 30 per cent. and our profit has gone down. Our capital was \$1,500,000 in 1896; now it is 2½ millions. Exchange has gone down 30 per cent. and our profit has gone down very much. And now we are going to bind ourselves and future shareholders to a fixed bonus. We are always willing to give a bonus in good years, and the proof is there—that we have been liberal in the past. One other thing I should like to say. You have assured us that the loss on the *Marie Jepsen* was \$5,000. Do we understand that that was the total loss? Some are estimating the loss at \$20,000, some at \$31,000 and some at \$40,000. Now it is minimized to \$5,000 and I should like a repetition of this confirmation. Did you make a profit, and besides making a profit was this \$5,000 lost, or do you mean to say that you have done the work for nothing and that after doing the work for nothing there was a loss of \$5,000 against the shareholders? I should like a very clear answer, because there is a rumour that the damage was \$25,000 to \$40,000.

The CHAIRMAN—Referring to your first question on the provident fund, in 1898 when we voted that bonus to the staff on that profit of over one million dollars for each half-year the appropriation to shareholders was only \$31 per share on the present subdivisible basis, as against \$6 now; and that might have influenced the bonus to the staff. With regard to the *Marie Jepsen* unfortunate affair, of course when I said there was a loss to the Company of about \$5,000 I did not mean to convey that there was a profit and then a loss. There was an actual loss to the Company of \$4,500.

Mr. MICHAEL—That is doing the work for nothing?

The CHAIRMAN—Our profit was eaten up by the necessary repairs.

Mr. MICHAEL—Then the answer is that we docked the *Marie Jepsen* free, employed our men on the work, and lost \$5,000. This is not proper book-keeping. The whole loss should be shown in the accounts.

The CHAIRMAN—As I said before, it is not advisable always to give public, broadcast information concerning the inner workings of a concern, where there is so much competition to contend with, for it might prove detrimental

to the Company, and that is one point which influenced the directors in this matter.

Mr. MICHAEL—I am not seeking for information of that kind. But this was a most unfortunate piece of carelessness on the part of somebody, and we are shareholders and partners in the Company and ought to be taken into confidence and shown the right thing. I am not seeking information to publish. But take me into confidence and show me the right thing. That is all I am seeking. This is a most unfortunate thing. The shareholders have to pay for it, yet the staff want a bonus of 5 per cent. from us. I simply speak logic before the directors and you can think of it yourselves.

Mr. E. A. HEWETT—I understand, Mr. Chairman, that the question of the provident fund has been proposed and seconded in the regular way and that you are just going to put it to the vote?

The CHAIRMAN—It has not been proposed and seconded.

Mr. HEWETT—But it is not customary to allow discussion until the motion is regularly put.

The CHAIRMAN—Will any shareholder make the motion?

Mr. HEWETT—I will read the resolution as coming from a private shareholder. I beg to propose that the recommendation of the directors for the inauguration of a provident fund for the benefit of the Company's European staff be adopted on the lines suggested by the directors. It appears to me, gentlemen, that the points raised by Mr. Michael rather obscure this question. Mr. Michael spoke on behalf of "us shareholders." I think there are a good many people in the room who like myself do not agree with everything he said. With regard to the accident to the *Marie Jebsen*, I fancy it was largely due to the typhoon. How the shareholders or the directors or anybody else can be held liable for that I do not know. But that is not the question. The question is that it is proposed to start a provident fund for the benefit of the European members of the staff. The question of provident funds for the employees of big public companies is one which has been steadily growing in favour all over the world. In many parts of the world—particularly in our own country—provident funds are provided, and it is a customary thing for the company to provide roughly about the same amount as is contributed by the individual employees of the company. I think the proposal of the directors in this respect is an eminently reasonable one and should obtain our full support. The amount is not much. The Chairman has shown that on an average, if, as we hope, the prosperity of the Company continues, the amount subscribed by the shareholders will be less than was formerly subscribed as a bonus. If it is necessary in the interests of a company—because the interests of a company and of the employees are identical—to found a provident fund in Europe surely it is much more so in a country like this where Europeans work very long hours, sometimes too, on Sundays, in a climate to which they are not suited by birth and are in every way handicapped. A similar system, I may remark, was brought into force by the Telegraph Company some years ago, and other companies have done the same. It is not only because the proposal comes from the directors but because it is in the interests of the shareholders that I very strongly recommend that this proposal should be adopted, and I hope it will be carried by a large majority. (Applause.)

Mr. H. HUMPHREYS seconded.

Mr. W. PARLANE—Mr. Chairman, A great deal has been said about this provident fund and about coupling it with the bonus. Is it understood that if this provident fund proposal is carried, the bonus hitherto paid at the end of successful years will be abolished?

The CHAIRMAN—Abolished, yes.

The motion was then put to the meeting, and a show of hands taken, with the result that the motion was lost.

The next business was the confirmation of the appointment as directors of the Hon. C. W. Dickson and Messrs. C. Michelau and J. H. Lewis. This confirmation was made, on the motion of Mr. W. PARLANE, seconded by Mr. W. A. CRICKSHANK.

Mr. W. DANBY proposed the re-election as

directors of Messrs. N. A. Siebs and G. H. Medhurst.

Mr. E. A. HEWETT seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. A. G. MORRIS, seconded by Mr. A. DENISON, Messrs. Thomas Arnold and Fullarton Henderson were re-elected to the office of auditors.

This was all the business.

HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LD.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in this Company was held at the offices, Bank Buildings, on the 24th inst. The Hon. C. W. Dickson (chairman) presided, and the others present were the Hon. R. Shewan and Messrs. C. Michelau, N. A. Siebs, E. Goetz, F. A. Gomes (directors), T. Arnold (secretary), J. Arnold, J. Barton, K. McK. Ross, E. R. Fuhrmann, and O. Struckmeyer.

The notice calling the meeting having been read by the SECRETARY.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, as indicated in the notice just read the object with which we are met together to-day is to confirm the resolution passed on the 7th inst., the effect of which as I then stated will, in the opinion of your directors, be most beneficial to the Company. I therefore move the confirmation of the following resolution:—That the Articles of Association be altered in the manner following (a) In Article 79 the word "Nine" shall be substituted for the word "Seven," (b) In Article 88 the words "Nine thousand" shall be substituted for the words "Seven thousand."

Mr. STRUCKMEYER seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

This was all the business.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LD.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the thirty-fourth ordinary meeting, to be held at the Company's offices on Thursday, the 5th March, at 11.30 a.m.:—

The directors have now the pleasure to submit their annual report and statement of the Company's accounts made up to 31st December last.

1901.—The balance at credit of working account as per last report was \$237,319.21

Add premis since received 137.86

—————\$237,457.07

Deduct claims paid in

1902 \$130,099.95

Deduct return premis, &c.,

&c., 5,794.25

—————135,889.20

Balance of Profit \$101,567.87

It is proposed to transfer the sum of \$18,581.13 from the extra reserve fund, which added to the above profit for the year 1901, will enable the board to recommend the payment of the usual dividend of \$6 per share, or \$120,000, and \$149 as bonus to contributors of premis. With the above transfer the extra reserve fund will stand at \$72,769.42 as shown in the annexed balance sheet.

1902.—The balance at credit of working account at the close of this year was \$262,897.67, showing a gain of \$25,578.46 over the previous 12 months in spite of the losses being somewhat heavier.

DIRECTORS

Messrs. H. W. Slade, A. Haupt, and Hon. C. S. Sharp resigned their seats on leaving the Colony and Messrs. G. Balloch, C. Michelau and A. G. Wood were invited to fill the vacancies on the board. These appointments will require the confirmation of shareholders.

Messrs. N. A. Siebs and E. Goetz retire by rotation, and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS

Mr. James H. Cox having resigned his appointment the directors nominated Mr. A. R. Love to audit the annexed accounts with Mr. W. Hutton Potts. These gentlemen offer themselves for re-election.

R. SHEWAN, Chairman.

The accounts are as follows:—

BALANCE SHEET.

31st December, 1902.

LIABILITIES		\$	c.
Capital account		400,000.00	
Reserve fund		1,000,000.00	
Extra reserve fund		72,769.42	
Accounts payable:—			
Dividend for 1901	\$120,000.00		
Bonus for 1901 and sundries	16,018.28		
		136,018.28	
Working account, 1902:—			
Balance at credit		262,897.67	
		1,871,676.37	
ASSETS.		\$	c.
Cash at banks		40,042.78	
Fixed deposits at banks:—			
Hongkong and Shanghai	\$ c.		
Banking Corporation	1,500.00		
Chartered Bank of India			
Australia and China	75,000.00		
Mercantile Bank of India			
Limited	50,000.00		
Deutsch-Asiatische Bank	50,000.00		
		370,000.00	
Investments:—			
Chinese Imperial Govern-	\$ c.		
ment E bonds	87,759.65		
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf			
and Godown Co., Limited,			
debentures	103,152.50		
Hongkong Club debentures	47,000.00		
Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd.,			
debentures	50,000.00		
Shanghai Land Investment			
Co., Ltd. debentures	40,877.40		
Shanghai Waterworks Co.,			
Ltd. debentures	8,472.22		
Shares in public companies			
at cost	65,978.25		
		412,210.02	
Loans on mortgage:—			
On properties in Hongkong		984,800.00	
Rural building lots, Nos. 42 and 84			
Assigned by executor of mortgagor		7,500.00	
Furniture account:—			
Office furniture, &c.		350.00	
Accounts receivable:—			
Premia due from agencies, interest due			
on deposits and investments, &c.		55,543.59	
		\$1,871,676.37	

WORKING ACCOUNT.

1st January to 31st December, 1902.

Dr		\$	c.
To charges account:—			
Rent, salaries, legal and sur-			
veyors' fees, taxes, stamps,	\$ c.		
stationery, &c.	\$33,757.74		
Directors' and auditors' fees	7,400.00		
		41,157.74	
To commission account:—			
Agents' commissions		24,108.51	
To fire brigade's account:—			
Contributions at agencies, &c.		163.45	
To losses account, 1902:—			
Claims paid after deduction of re-insur-			
ances		73,734.01	
To amount written off:—			
Furniture account		70.00	
To balance		202,897.67	
		\$402,171.38	
Cr.		\$	c.
By premium account:—			
Premiums received after deduction of re-			
insurances		290,969.88	
By interest account:—			
Amount at credit, including interest due			
on deposits and investments, &c.		115,080.44	
By transfer fee account:—			
Amount at credit		141.06	
		\$402,171.33	

The passengers on the Hamburg-America steamship *Hamburg*, which arrived in port on the 20th inst. and departed for the north on 21st inst., witnessed a somewhat exciting incident in the Straits of Malacca. Between Penang and Singapore one of the quartermasters, whilst engaged in tightening some of the awning ropes, fell overboard. The sea was calm, and, as the accident happened shortly after luncheon time, when many passengers were on deck, life-buoys were promptly thrown. In falling from the ship the unfortunate man hurt his left arm, but he managed to get hold of one of the buoys and support himself until rescued by a boat which was lowered from the ship. As sharks abound in the Malacca Straits the situation both for the quartermaster and the eager spectators on the ship was a distinctly unpleasant one, and when the unfortunate man was rescued the relief felt by the passengers was expressed by a ringing cheer.

SUPREME COURT.

Saturday, 21st February.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR S R WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE QUARRY BAY FATAL RIOT.

The hearing was continued of the case in which nineteen coolies were charged with riot and wounding with intent to murder.

The Attorney General in addressing the jury stated that thirteen of the prisoners had only one witness against them.

The jury found the remaining six guilty as libelled.

His Lordship sentenced each of the six to two years' imprisonment with hard labour. The Court adjourned.

Monday, 23rd February.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

CHARGE AGAINST A COMPRADORE.

Ng Lai Kok was charged with having committed embezzlement while employed as compradore with Messrs. Lütgens, Einstmann & Co., merchants.

He pleaded not guilty, and was defended by Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law, instructed by Mr. J. Scott Harston of Messrs. Ewens & Harston, solicitors. The Attorney-General Sir Henry S. Berkeley (instructed by Mr. H. Hursthouse of Messrs. Denny & Bowley, Crown Solicitors) conducted the prosecution.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. J. Lysaught, R. J. Macgowan, A. Sheffield, R. Ferguson, C. Warren, J. Lacock and G. H. Dann.

When called as a juror, Mr. Lacock asked his Lordship to be excused from serving as he had already sat on four juries during the present Sessions.

His Lordship said there was no reason in law why he should be granted exemption. If Mr. Lacock had any pressing business engagement, however, he would grant his request. This was the last case, and he would not be called for another year at any rate.

Mr. Lacock did not press his request.

The Attorney-General having opened the case for the Crown, evidence was led.

The jury unanimously found the accused not guilty, and he was discharged.

The Court rose.

Tuesday, 24th February.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

ALLEGED WRONGFUL DISMISSAL.

Dinshaw or Dinshajee Scrabjee, baker and confectioner, presently residing in the Parsae Club, sued Hormusjee Ruttonjee, of 5, D'Aguiar Street and of the Queen's Hotel, for specific performance of an agreement entered into between the defendant and the plaintiff in November, 1902, whereby the defendant agreed to engage the plaintiff to serve him as a store-keeper's assistant, baker and confectioner, for the term of three years to be computed from 23rd September, 1902; or alternatively for the sum of \$1,402.78, being as of \$102.78 balance of salary due by the defendant to the plaintiff up to 22nd January, 1903, and \$1,300 damages for the breach by the defendant of the above-mentioned agreement and for wrongful dismissal of the plaintiff from the defendant's employment the amount of the claim being reduced to \$1,000 in order to bring it within the Summary Jurisdiction of the Court. Plaintiff also claimed costs.

Mr. G. C. C. Master of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. C. E. H. Beavis of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors), appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Pollock stated that notice of a special defence had been given to the other side.

Mr. Master asked leave to amend the alternative claim so as to read "for work and labour done and services rendered by the plaintiff to the defendant and \$1,300 damages for the wrongful dismissal of the plaintiff from defendant's employment."

Mr. Pollock said he was sorry he could not consent to that amendment.

His Lordship remarked that he was very doubtful that he could allow it; it was such a serious one. It was amending the whole action.

After conference between parties with a view to settlement,

Mr. Pollock said that they were not able to come to an agreement; the difficulty was as regards costs.

Mr. Master contended that each side should pay their own costs.

His Lordship remarked to Mr. Master that the other side looked upon his writ as a bad one. He was inclined to non-suit the plaintiff, who could then bring another suit if he liked.

Mr. Master said that his client had been brought here from Bombay, and now they were to put it plainly, throwing him out.

His Lordship—They might have a right to do so.

Mr. Master was quite prepared to show that there had been no misconduct; that point had never been raised at all.

His Lordship—I do not know that.

Mr. Master thought this was one of those cases where a man in the position of Mr. Ruttonjee could well afford to waive the question of costs and let each side pay their own.

His Lordship stated that if Mr. Ruttonjee agreed to that he would be very happy to make an order to that effect. Judgment otherwise must be non-suit with costs, and his Lordship hoped that in the meantime a settlement would be arrived at, seeing that they had already come so near it.

Mr. Master—That gives me liberty to bring another action?

His Lordship—Yes; the non-suit gives you that.

The Court adjourned.

Thursday, 26th February.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND COMMANDEER BASIL R. H. TAYLOR (Assessor)

STEAMER V. JUNK.

The steamer *Eclair* sued licensed cargo-junk No. 711 for damages arising out of a collision which occurred on 5th November in the Capsumun Pass.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. Paget Hett of Messrs. Mounsey & Brutton, solicitors), appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor), appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Sharp read the preliminary acts. Plaintiff stated that the collision happened about half-past seven o'clock p.m. on the day in question; defendant said about seven o'clock. Plaintiff stated that the place of the collision was near the south end of the Capsumun Strait on that side of the channel which lay to the *Eclair's* starboard side. As to the direction and force of the wind, plaintiff said, "About north; moderate force." Defendant stated, "Light northerly wind." The state of the weather was said by the plaintiff to be dark and fine; defendant stated that it was a clear, starry night, with the moon, a very small one, about to disappear behind the hills. Plaintiff described the tide as a flood tide, from two to three miles an hour; defendant said the tide was about slack. As regards the course and speed of the ship when the other was first seen, plaintiff stated that the *Eclair* was heading about N.N.W. and going about nine miles an hour over the ground; defendant stated that the junk was travelling in a S.E. direction at a speed of about two miles an hour. Plaintiff said, also, that the steamer was carrying the regulation lights; that was to say, a white light on the flagstaff forward (the *Eclair* had no mast), a green light on the starboard side and a red light on the port side. The defendant stated

that the junk was exhibiting one white masthead light. Plaintiff said that the junk when first seen was about 100 or 150 yards away on the port bow of the *Eclair*; defendant said that the *Eclair* when first sighted was from 300 to 400 *cheongs* distant, say, 1,200 to 1,600 yards. In answer to the question "Lights if any, of the other ship which were first seen?" the steamer said "None." Defendant said that the white and red lights of the steamer were first observed. As to the question with regard to the lights of the other ship, other than those first seen, which came into view before the collision, plaintiff's answer was "None."

His Lordship—You put it that they had not got a light?

Mr. Sharp answered in the affirmative. Defendant, he continued, said that the steamer's lights which were first sighted were the only lights seen from the junk up till the time of the collision. Regarding the measures taken to avoid a collision, the plaintiff stated that as soon as those on board the *Eclair* saw the junk the steamer's helm was ported, her engines were reversed, one short blast was blown on the whistle and those on board the steamer shouted to the junk to keep out of the way. The junk people said that the junk was kept on her course until it was seen that the only way to avoid a collision with the steamer was to put the helm hard aport, which was done accordingly. Immediately before that those on board the junk shouted out to those on board the steamer to avoid the junk. The plaintiff stated, further, with regard to the parts of the ships that came into contact, that the bow of the junk struck the port bow of the *Eclair* about three feet from the stem; the junk said that the bow of the junk struck the port bow of the steamer. Plaintiff alleged that the junk carried no light, that she improperly starboarded her helm, that no proper look-out was kept on board, and that the junk was navigated in a reckless and unseamanlike manner. On the other hand, the junk stated that those on board the *Eclair* did not keep a proper look-out, that the *Eclair* did not keep out of the way of the junk as she ought to have done, and that her engines were not slackened and reversed in sufficient time to avoid a collision. The case of the plaintiff, said Mr. Sharp in conclusion, was substantially that the junk carried no lights, which unfortunately was an extremely common case against junks in local waters.

Evidence was afterwards given for the plain iff.

REVIEW.

East of Asia. No. 4. Shanghai, North-China Herald Office.

THE fourth number of *East of Asia* issued from the North-China Herald Office, Shanghai, contains among its most readable articles one by Mr. E. J. Ezra on "Chinese Jews." It is, as the writer remarks, not well known that Jews in considerable numbers have existed in China from a very remote period, but Mr. Ezra mentions that on one of the stone tablets found in the long-since-destroyed synagogue at Kaifeng-fu, the capital of Honan, it is recorded that the Jews first entered China during the Han Dynasty (from B.C. 200 to A.D. 226) while the letters of the Jesuit fathers fix the date of their entry as during the reign of Mingti (A.D. 58 to 75). Mr. Ezra concurs in the view of the Jesuit fathers that the Jews came from Persia. The ritual established amongst the Chinese Jews, he says, clearly comes by way of Persia. It would appear that at one time there must have been a considerable Jewish community at Kaifengfu, but floods and rebellions have worked havoc amongst them and the number now remaining is not more than 14 adults. These "pitiful remnants" have no synagogue left, no leader, and no school in which to train the children in the faith of their fathers, but something is being done by the Jewish community in Shanghai to save them from utter extinction. Another article of historical interest is that of Mr. John Archibald on the memorial tablet of Yü, "the Chinese Noah," concerning the Chinese Deluge, which took place not long after the accepted date of the Biblical flood. Mrs. Timothy Richard contributes an article on "Chinese Music," the

facts about which she says have been gathered first hand from Chinese authorities; the Rev. C. Bone has an article on the Kwangung University at Canton, with especial reference to the impending radical changes in the curriculum. Mr. Theodor Metzelthin's second character sketch from Chinese History deals with Kublai Khan, whom he describes as "at once an ambitious, cold-blooded conqueror and a friend and patron of learning and all the arts of peace." Not the least interesting of the articles in the current issue of the magazine is that on the Sicawei Observatory by Mr. C. Hink, and a very readable contribution is that by the Rev. C. E. Darwent on the T'ai Hu, "the great Lake, the Lake of Lakes, the very Father of Waters of all the creeks, lakes and lakelets that lie between Shanghai and Wuhu." We have sufficiently indicated that the current issue maintains the highly favourable impression created by the previous numbers of the magazine, and we need only add that all the articles are illustrated by capital reproductions from photographs.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. ("A" TEAM) v. ARMY OF NANCE C.C.

In this match, which was played on the 21st inst. in perfect cricket weather, the Army men made an unexpectedly good fight of it with a rather strong "A" team of the H.K.C.C. Indeed, if their fielding had only been up to the level of their batting and bowling, it is quite possible that they would have won. As it was, however, their slackness in this department of the game robbed them of any chance of victory, as the Club batsmen, profiting by the many mistakes in the field, ran up a score which it was unlikely that the Army men would ever be able to exceed. Through a variety of circumstances, three of the originally selected Club team were unable to play and their places had to be filled at the last moment. The Army men won the toss, but, as only six of the home eleven were on the ground at 11.45, they sportingly put their opponents in. Radcliffe and Barrett were the first pair of batsmen, and so well did they hit that, helped by some mistakes in the field, they put on 79 runs in about 40 minutes before Barrett was bowled for an useful 27. On Fawcett joining Radcliffe another stand was made and the score was taken to 97 before Radcliffe was bowled for a well hit, if somewhat lucky, 54. Carter and Fawcett also gave a good deal of trouble to the Army men, and with the aid of some luck added 55 runs to the score, when Fawcett was bowled for a hard hit 32. Gray, who followed, was twice badly missed early in his innings, but he also hit well and helped Carter to add 63 runs for the fourth wicket before he, too, was clean bowled. Lambie did not stay long, and with the fall of his wicket Ward declared the innings closed—the score then being 227 for 5 wickets down. Carter carried out his bat for a capital 54. As stated above, it was the fielding of the Army men that enabled the Club team to make such a formidable score, as each of the batsmen gave one or more chances, most of which were simple ones. The ground fielding, too, was poor, and many runs were lost through this fault.

With two hours left for play, there seemed to be every chance of the Club team getting their opponents out, especially as Dixon, Fawcett and Lambie were available for bowling. For once, however, these usually dependable trundlers failed, and the dismissal of the Army batsmen was brought about by less famous bowlers. Lillywhite and Tillman started well and took the score to 46 before Tillman was bowled for an useful 16. Lillywhite continued to play well, and was not got rid of until he had scored a very creditable 53. Anson also hit well and contributed a very useful 38. Rutter too, gave trouble and refused to be tempted to hit. At length, however, he ran out to one of Ward's insinuating slows and, missing it, was well stumped by Goldring. None of the others gave much trouble, but the last man was only disposed of on the stroke of time, the score then being 174. The match thus ended in an easy win for the Club by 5 wickets and 53 runs. Elborough was very successful with the ball, taking 5 wickets for 39 runs, and Ward's 3 wickets for 36 was a useful, if somewhat unexpected, performance. The fielding gener-

ally was rather better than usual, though it still left much to be desired. The following are the full scores and analyses:—

H.K.C.C. "A."	
T. M. Barrett, R.N., b Skinner	27
Capt. Radcliffe, R.E., b Bradford	54
Capt. Fawcett, R.A., b Bradford	32
R. H. Carter, R.N., not out	54
T. C. Gray, b Skinner	36
P. T. Lambie, b Hatwell	2
J. T. Dixon	
A. C. E. Elborough,	
H. Warren,	did not bat
A. G. Ward (capt.)	
P. W. Goldring,	
Extras	22

Total (for 5 wickets).....227

A.O.D.	
J. L. Lillywhite (capt.), c Warren, b Ward	53
Tillman, b Carter	16
R. Skinner, c Fawcett, b Carter	4
Anson, c Carter, b Elborough	38
C. Rutter, at Goldring, b Ward	14
E. Bradford, c Carter, b Elborough	4
Palmer, at Goldring, b Elborough	2
E. McGibbon, c Goldring, b Elborough	7
W. T. Burgess, c Dixon, b Elborough	0
W. Bromley, b Ward	11
H. E. Hatwell, not out	10
Extras	10

Total.....174

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

H.K.C.C. "A."				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
Bradford	19	—	83	2
Turner	6	1	28	—
Skinner	13	3	37	2
Palmer	4	—	21	—
Lillywhite	2	—	4	—
Hatwell	5.2	1	21	1
Anson	1	—	1	—

A.O.D.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
J. T. Dixon	14	4	34	—
Lambie	3	—	25	—
Fawcett	5	1	9	—
Carter	7	1	16	2
Elborough	10	1	39	5
Ward	4.3	—	36	3

UNION CHURCH v. CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

Teams representing the above played a cricket match at the Happy Valley on the 21st inst. and the former won by 21 runs. For the winners, Grimble contributed 32 and the Rev. Hickling's 29 not out was the outcome of a very careful game. Cooper bowled extremely well, capturing 6 wickets at the expense of 26 runs, whilst Brawn for Craigenpower proved himself the most successful batsman and bowler. Appendix are the scores and analyses:—

UNION CHURCH TEAM.	
Rev. H. R. Wells, l.b.w., b Brawn	0
W. M. Everall, b Brawn	5
C. R. S. Cooper, b Brawn	0
G. P. Lammert, c M. E. Asger, b Pestonji	1
A. Mackenzie (capt.), b Brawn	1
G. Grimble, b Brawn	32
W. Brand, b Pestonji	0
Rev. C. H. Hickling, not out	29
J. W. C. Bonnar, b Brawn	2
J. W. Glyn, b Lammert	5
W. E. Claret, c Kinnaird, b Brawn	3
Extras	7

Total.....95

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.	
M. H. Hartman, c Cooper	8
L. E. Lammert, c Bonnar, b Mackenzie	8
J. D. Kinnaird, c Cooper	4
A. O. Brawn, b Cooper	18
M. E. Asger (capt.), c Grimble, b Cooper	12
R. Bana, b Cooper	0
J. L. Stuart, l.b.w., b Mackenzie	0
L. A. Rose, not out	4
R. Pestonji, b Cooper	12
J. P. Jordan, l.b.w., b Mackenzie	0
A. E. Asger, c and b Mackenzie	0
Extras	0

Total.....75

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

UNION CHURCH TEAM.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
Brawn	13.1	2	49	7
Pestonji	8	1	21	2
Hartman	4	—	15	—
Lammert	1	—	3	1

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Cooper	13	1	26	6
Mackenzie	8	1	23	4
Lammert	4	—	13	—
Grimble	1	—	5	—

Mr. W. B. Kahler has been elected Chief Engineer of the Fire Department at Shanghai in succession to the late Mr. Lewis Moore.

FOOTBALL.

SHIELD TIE—V.R.C. v. H.M.S. "ARGONAUT."

At Happy Valley on the 21st inst. in fine weather and before a good turn-out of spectators, the above teams met to play their tie in the second round of the Shield competition. The sides were:—

V.R.C.: Goal—Fittock; backs—Lapsley (capt.) and Duncan; halves—Austin, J. Wicheil, and Henderson; forwards—H. A. Seth, Humphreys, Herton, Holmes and Sayer.

H.M.S. Argonaut: Goal—Robinson; backs—Morrison and Taylor; halves—Climbold, Hodge, and Perry; forwards—Brown, Gogle, Paton, Callaghan, and Stevens.

Referee—Sergeant Harper, H.M.S. Ocean.

The V.R.C. set the ball in motion, and both teams at once settled down to a hard game. Neither had any particular advantage for the first five minutes or so, but the Argonauts thereafter adopted aggressive tactics that brought them frequently in close proximity to Fittock's position. It was during one of these sieges that the first and only goal of the match was scored, Paton defeating Fittock and finding the net with a fast shot. The V.R.C. responded with a run up the field, but got a bye only, and from the goal kick the "Blues" again came away to the front. Gogle, who had charge of the leather, outwitted Henderson easily, and centred. Duncan cleared, and Herton, supported by Holmes and Sayer, took up the pass and transferred play to the other end. Robinson had an anxious time for a space, the V.R.C. pressing hard with the determination to notch the equaliser. Herton had two shots at goal, but each went past. The give-and-take character of the game kept the spectators continually on the qui vive, as well as the respective custodians, and excitement often ran high. The Club were awarded a free kick in Argonaut territory, but Henderson topped the net with it, and there followed a dangerous rush by the sailors which the Club's halves turned splendidly. A repetition of the attack saw the ball travel across the goal-mouth and over the line. Henderson, who was never conspicuous, gave away a free kick at centre, but the "Blues" failed to turn the advantage to account. Herton, who alternated ornamental with useful work, made a plucky bid to put his side on even terms, but though he succeeded in getting behind the defences he lost the ball by dribbling it too hard. A pass beautifully centred from the Argonauts' left wing was badly accounted for by Brown, who captured close in but through hastiness sent the ball to the outside of the post. The V.R.C. were playing a defensive game, and had to sacrifice a couple of corners on their left, neither of which was improved, although the first looked very dangerous. The Argonauts potted, time and again, but could never quite reach the net, Duncan and Fittock playing a sterling game and keeping their goal inviolate. The "Blues" were in V.R.C. territory when half-time was called, the score then standing—

H.M.S. Argonaut, 1; V.R.C., 0.

The Club invaded on the resumption, Herton in charge. He sent in a hard ground shot and missed the sticks by inches only. The sailors played a cautious game, and contented themselves with negotiating the attacks of the opposing forwards. When these had become less spirited they broke away on a visit to Fittock. Lapsley missed the ball, but the watchful custodian filled in the breach manfully and kicked clear. Another couple of corners fell to the "Blues" on their left, but again neither was improved, the second being badly taken. Morrison, the Argonauts' right back, put in some most useful work, and gained repeated applause for the magnificent way in which he returned every ball that came in his direction. Lapsley was slightly hurt, and the game was stopped for a short time till he got on his feet again. Offside against their opponents gave the Club an opportunity to clear their ground, but they did it without material disadvantage to the sailors, Morrison proving one too many for the tricky Herton. Seth, who was not so energetic as we have seen him, centred well from the wing, and a tangle ensued near goal. The "Blues" were just emerging with the ball when a shove cost them a free kick, and in the next few moments their goal stood in greater

danger than at any previous or ultimate stage of the game. They rose to the occasion, however, and Paton took his forwards down the field in a rush towards Fittok. The halves were easily passed, and it lay with Lapsley to respond to the attack. This he did by sending the leather out of play, when he might just as easily and with more effectiveness have done otherwise, for he had plenty of time. Herton got possession eventually, and passed to Seth, who made a fruitless attempt to defeat Robinson. Herton again captured when the ball was returned, and this time Robinson conceded a corner. This, and another which followed, the Club failed to turn to account, having to retire unsuccessful after a lot of exciting work at goal. The game, which preserved its interest for the spectators to the last, was stopped just on time by reason of an injury, fortunately but slight, to one of the *Argonauts'* forwards, who collided at the Club's goal with one of his own partners. When it recommenced, the sailors renewed their bombardment, and had hard luck in not raising their score, one shot striking the cross-bar and another one of the uprights. The call of time found the score unaltered:—

H.M.S. *Argonaut*, 1; V.R.C., 0.

SHIELD TIE—H.M.S. "GLORY" v. 8TH CO., R.G.A.

There was a good attendance to witness this match, which was played at Happy Valley on the afternoon of the 26th inst. Teams:—

Glory—Goal, Morgan; backs, Urquhart and Sherbrooke; halves, Booth, Crossman, and Watson; forwards, Lane, Hensford, Milford, Moore, and Cottell.

R.A.—Goal, Toon; backs, Bottomley and Cassidy; halves, Spence, Cooper, and Dooley; forwards, Stone, Sewell, Yule, Robertson, and Browning.

Referee.—Mr. F. Browne.

The Artillery kicked off, and almost coincidentally gave away a free kick. The *Glory* made nothing by it, however, and were called upon to defend their territory, but a corner which fell to the R.A. remained unconverted. The *Glory* began to press, and three tried to open the scoring, Toon having to handle once. The soldiers made a break-away, but the forwards were slow and lost the ball. Their custodian was playing a sterling game and accounting splendidly for the dangerous shots that repeatedly came in. Thus early, the Navy lot were manifesting their superiority in the open, and kept their opponents tied down to defence work. Now and then the Artillery cleared their ground, but their attacks were never pressed far enough and caused no real uneasiness to the *Glory* goalkeeper. Once, however, he had to run out to stop a dangerous rush by Stone and Sewell, and might have fared worse a little later had not the former thrown away a beautiful chance at an open goal. The gunners were now showing up to decidedly better advantage, and toward the interval the bluejackets did not have much to boast of. The combination work of their forwards was a treat, but with it all they were unable to score, and half-time found the game standing—

Glory 0; Artillery, 0.

Milford touched the ball twice when he kicked off on the resumption, and gave the soldiers a free kick, which, however, was located too far out to be of any material use to them. The *Glory* got a corner on their left, and, taking up the pass, Crossman did his best to set the ball, but sent to the outside. Milford, "Sinbad," they called him, took a free kick close in for the *Glory* and found the net, but as no one touched the ball in its flight the effort was abortive. The sailors lost a good many points by their unnecessarily hard shooting at goal, and the gunners set about showing them how to do it. They pressed, and kept it up too, but eventually had to retrace their steps without reward. Toon caught a dropping shot in his hands and threw it over Milford's head as the latter charged full speed at him; then, stepping back quickly, he allowed "Sinbad" to find a resting-place in the corner of the net whilst he himself recaptured the ball and sent it well out. Morgan's charge was then assailed, but the situation was relieved by the leather topping the bar. The *Glory's* goal came unexpectedly; Milford took up a pass into centre and consigned the ball to Hensford, who shot close

in at goal. Toon darted at the ball, but slipped, and into the net the leather rolled. The soldiers went to pieces after this, and Milford, after failing to profit by an absolutely open goal when only three yards away from it, outwitted the R.A. defence and scored the second point of the match. The Artillery made a good fight of it, but they were hardly fit enough to put a different interpretation on the game, which ended—*Glory*, 2; Artillery, 0.

HOCKEY.

CLUB 1ST XI v. H.M.S. "GOLIATH."

A good game between the above two teams was played on the 22nd inst., and resulted in a victory for the Club by 5 goals to 2. The *Goliath* opened the scoring, but the Club soon equalised by the assistance of Wodehouse. Maxwell-Scott, who was playing a very strong game, now gave the *Goliath* the lead, which Carter soon reduced, the score at half-time being two all. On resuming, the Club pressed hard, and Wodehouse scored two more goals and Hartnell one. The *Goliath* had hard luck now and then, one or two shots going dangerously close. The Club played very well together, and in the forward line, besides those already mentioned, Meaden and Barnes were prominent. At half, Chater played a very strong game. The backs were almost impregnable and Parker in goal cleared well. For the *Goliath*, Maxwell-Scott, Richards and French were very good, while St. Clair in goal repeatedly saved the hard shots the Club forwards from time to time sent in.

CLUB v. H.M.S. "TALBOT."

An excellent game between these two teams was witnessed on Thursday afternoon on the Club ground. The *Talbot*, mainly by some good play on the part of Pringle, scored two goals in the first half, and at half-time it appeared that they would win easily. The Club, however, rallied wonderfully, and, keeping Pringle well marked, scored 3 goals, thus winning by one goal. Wodehouse, the Club centre-forward, played a grand game and scored all the 3 goals himself. Solfeet played a particularly useful half-back game, while Murphy at back and Parker in goal both showed up well, the latter saving some very hard shots. All the forwards played well. For the *Talbot*, besides Pringle, who was in fact the best man on the field, Scott and Bigg tried hard to avert defeat.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The race for the cup kindly given by the officers of the Royal Engineers was sailed for on the 22nd inst. in a fine easterly breeze of almost whole sail strength. The course was round a mark-boat off the South Pier on Stonecutters', a mark-boat on Kellet's Bank, the mark-boat off Stonecutters', the mark-boat on Kellet's Bank and in, leaving all marks to port. There was a strong flood tide all the afternoon.

Iris and *Alannah* were the first two boats over the line at the start with the rest of the 10 starters in a bunch close astern of them. *Alannah* crossed the line at a good pace and at once drew away from the rest, who were all hampered by the close proximity of other boats. *Vernon* and *Dione* were both well placed at the start, but the latter particularly suffered from the unwelcome attentions of her neighbours and was luffed a long way out of her course by the *Erica*. The excellent start she got, combined with the way the *Chanticleer* stuck close to the *Vernon* the whole way down to the first mark, enabled *Alannah* to hold the lead all the way to the mark-boat on Kellet's Bank. Shortly after rounding the mark-boat off Stonecutters' the *Chanticleer* had to retire from the race, having unluckily carried away something. Of the rest, *Min* was doing very well and was close up to *Vernon* and *Alannah*. On the close haul to the mark-boat off Stonecutters' again *Vernon* drew up on *Alannah* and got past her at the mark, while *Dione* got clear of her neighbours and materially improved her position. *Min* still held her ground, sailing very well, and all the other one-design boats kept well within their time of the leaders. As soon as the lee mark was rounded for the second time and the boats started for the three miles thrash home, the two new boats showed their immense superiority over the old types and

rapidly left the rest behind them. But at the same time it is hardly conceivable that they could have saved their time on the leading boats of the one-design class had not the latter elected to sail right across the full strength of the tide over towards the Hongkong shore instead of keeping on the starboard tack and making for Stonecutters' and then sailing along the Yaumati shore. At the lee mark the *Min* in particular seemed to have the race in hand. She was ahead of *Dione* and not more than about two minutes astern of *Vernon*, and with 11½ minutes handicap she had at least 9 minutes in hand with only three miles more to sail. If she had sailed the same water as *Vernon* it is hardly possible that she would have been beaten. Of the one-design and 2nd class boats *Bonito* and *Maid Marian*, both a long way astern of the *Min*, were the only boats to follow the leaders, and of these the *Bonito* when quite close to the line had still a minute and a half in hand, and with a little luck with the wind, which at the time was dropping fast, would have won. With regard to *Alannah* it was noticeable that so long as the wind remained strong and the water a little lumpy the new boats, though sailing faster than she did, could not get far away from her, but as soon as they got into the smooth water and slacker wind off the Yaumati shore they just raced away. The final performance of the day was undoubtedly that of *Dione*. She was about two minutes astern of *Alannah* at the lee mark and she finished 4 minutes 54 seconds ahead of her: so she gained 6 minutes and 54 seconds on a beat of 3 miles, and this off easily the best boat to windward of all the old boats. In the end the *Alannah* won by the narrow margin of 49 seconds and thus took the R.E. Cup for the third year in succession.

The official times are as follows:—

		H. M. S.	H. M. S.
2	<i>Vernon</i> ...	3 31 17	3 31 17
3	<i>Dione</i> ...	3 31 43	3 31 43
1	<i>Alannah</i> ...	3 30 37	3 30 37
4	<i>Bonito</i> ...	3 44 52	3 32 22
6	<i>Min</i> ...	3 48 52	3 37 22
7	<i>Erica</i> ...	3 49 0	3 37 30
8	<i>Colleen</i> ...	3 49 20	3 37 50
5	<i>Maid Marian</i> ...	3 51 10	3 34 10
9	<i>Iris</i> ...	3 53 44	3 41 14

Chanticleer did not finish.

JAPAN AND COREA.

SETTLEMENT OF THE BANKNOTE DISPUTE.

The Japan papers contain particulars of the settlement of the banknote dispute which appeared likely to lead to a serious diplomatic rupture. The *Kobe Chronicle* says it appears that on the 12th inst. Mr. Hagiwara, the Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires* at Seoul, had an interview with Li Do-sai, the Korean Minister for Foreign Affairs, and after a somewhat heated discussion the Korean Government submitted to the protest of Japan, and an agreement was exchanged between the two representatives. The provisions of the memorandum are (1) that the illegal instructions ordering the banknotes to be prohibited be withdrawn; (2) that the Korean Government shall apologise to the Japanese Government by an official note for the injustice done; (3) that in the apology it shall be promised that those who in any way hinder the circulation of the First Bank notes in future shall be punished, and that this be publicly proclaimed by the Governor of Seoul; (4) that the appointment of the Korean Minister to Japan, which has long remained in abeyance, shall be made without delay; and (5) that the withdrawal of the illegal imposition of a tax on Japanese goods at Rakutoko be made immediately, as pledged by the Korean Minister for Foreign Affairs.

It is stated that the Korean Government at once issued instructions to the Governors of various open ports ordering them to withdraw the prohibition affecting the banknotes, but that Mr. Hagiwara informed the Government that he would maintain his protest pending the report from the Japanese Consuls at the open ports regarding the withdrawal of the prohibition.

A Seoul telegram states that a project is now on foot to establish a Central Banking Corporation with a capital of yen 3,000,000, the shares, value 50 yen each, to be allotted to Korean applicants exclusively. The Bank is intended to operate under a similar charter to that of the Bank of Japan, under which it would act as fiscal agents

for the National Treasury, receiving Customs duties and all other taxes, issuing notes and granting loans, etc. The bank would be under the supervision of the Minister of the Treasury. It is regarded as doubtful, however, if the capital can be raised within the Kingdom, and if not a loan will have to be raised.

HONGKONG.

During the 24 hours ended at noon on Thursday the 26th case of plague for 1903 occurred, a dead Chinese being found at Glenealy.

The Chinaman who is charged with the murder of his wife and grandfather at Kowloon City on the first ult. was on the 24th inst. committed for trial at the Magistracy.

On the 21st inst. a badger was caught and killed in a coppice just below Stewart Terrace, at the Peak. It was first seen by a dog belonging to Mr. Layton, and a number of coolies aided by dogs ran it to earth and killed it with a bamboo. It was a fine specimen.

To the members assembled in the Union Church on the 2nd inst., the Rev. C. H. Hickling made the announcement that impressed by the growth of population and the success of the Sunday School inaugurated in October, 1902, the Session had determined to commence Sunday services in Kowloon forthwith.

The authorities at the Central Police Station reported on the 23rd inst. that a Chinaman, supposed to be a passenger on the steamer *Dardanus*, was drowned in the harbour on the 22nd inst. It is not known how the man came to be in the water, but when he was seen an European quartermaster on the steamer dived to his rescue. The Chinaman, however, sank before he could be reached.

Mr. L. A. M. Johnston, the new Postmaster General of Hongkong, arrived here last evening by the P. and O. s.s. *Valetta*. Mr. E. Cornwall Lewis, who has filled the post of Acting Postmaster with much acceptance during his tenure of that office and has earned universal respect for his faithfulness to duty and general courtesy to the public, will sail by the next German mail for England on leave.

On and after 10th March the Messageries Maritimes homeward mail steamer will be despatched from Hongkong on Tuesdays, instead of on Mondays as at present. The new arrangement will be inaugurated by the s.s. *Annam* (Capt. Girard), on the date given above. She will leave at 11 a.m. The next fortnightly French mail will leave at 8 o'clock on Tuesday morning, and subsequent mails will leave alternately at 11 a.m. and 8 a.m.

Another public roup of horses and ponies took place at half-past twelve on the 24th inst. near the fountain at the City Hall, Messrs. Hughes & Hough being the auctioneers. Lieut.-Col. Hughes's *Brilliant* (brown water gelding, 4hds. 2½ in.), which won the Hongkong Derby and the Garrison Cup, was included in the catalogue. Five years old, in fine condition, and holding an unbeaten record—the horse has also figured successfully on the Australian turf—*Brilliant* might have been expected to become the object of keen competition. The contrary, however, proved to be the case, and the finish of some spiritless bidding saw the water bought in at \$675. *Chee Sai*, second in the Derby and first in the Grand Stand Stakes, also failed to arouse interest, and was bought in at \$525, as were *Lady Lena* (bay water mare) at \$275 and *Lady Mary* (brown water mare) at \$695; the former, it will be recalled, won the "Chee Sai" cup and was second in the Maiden Stakes. *Mirabel*, a chestnut water mare 14hds. lin. high, was sold for \$400, and *Dodo*, a brown water mare of 14hds. 1½ in., for \$375. *Disquiet*, the China pony which won the Visitor's Cup and ran third in the Exchange Plate, fetched \$225. Altogether, prices were regarded as most unsatisfactory, and comment on the fact and on the disinclination of owners to invest in purchases was not wanting. The failure of the Jockey Club to publish details concerning the proposed meeting in April was set down as the principal reason for this backwardness, and it was also remarked that indications did not point to waters being in much favour for next year's races, which would probably see China ponies in the majority.

A meeting of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club will be held on the 5th prox. in the C.C. Pavilion to consider the question of amalgamating with the Hongkong Boat Club.

We learn that the vacancy in the post of Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department, caused by the retirement of Mr. Charles Ford, has been filled by the appointment of Mr. F. T. Dunn, B.A., F.L.S., formerly associated with Kew Gardens.

A cable received in Hongkong on the 21st inst. announced the death, at Johannesburg, South Africa, of Miss Kate Vaughan, the well-known actress, for so many years connected with the Gaiety Theatre, London. Her sister, Miss Susie Vaughan, is at present in Hongkong with the Brough Company.

The ignorance in London of "the third largest shipping port in the world," or indeed of anything beyond the sound of Bow Bells was illustrated by a paragraph which went the round of the London papers on 19th January, stating that "Sir C. Bruce, Governor of Hongkong, telegraphs that for the week ended 15th January there were eighteen cases of bubonic plague, of which ten proved fatal."

The crews of the three Japanese warships in the harbour were granted leave in considerable numbers on the 25th inst. and attracted general attraction on the streets of the city by their smart appearance. Rear-Admiral Kamimura landed at Blake Pier in the forenoon and was received by a guard of honour and the band of the Sherwood Foresters. The Rear-Admiral afterwards called on H.E. the Governor at Government House.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that at a meeting of shareholders and subscribers of St. John's Cathedral, held on the 27th January, the following were elected Lay Members of the Church Body, for the year 1903:—Messrs. J. M. Atkinson, M.B., A. Bryer (Hon. Sec.), H. H. J. Gompertz, His Honour Sir W. Meigh Goodman, Kt., K.C., Hon. R. Murray Rumsey, Retd. Commander, R.N., and R. F. Wright (Hon. Treas.). Mr. R. C. Edwards was elected Auditor.

The sailing of the Pacific Mail S.S. Co.'s s.s. *Korea* on Friday was not only the record so far as the passenger-list is concerned for trans-Pacific lines, but also the record in respect of cargo taken out of Hongkong. She went completely full of cargo, in which connection it may be interesting to recall that her tonnage is 7,285 net and 11,300 gross. Sir Chen Tung Liang Chang, the new Chinese Minister to the United States, and his suite were among the passengers.

Among the list of the passengers who left on the 23rd inst. by the French mail steamer *Salazie* we notice the name of Dr. Arango, of the Macao Board of Health, who goes home together with his family on a well-deserved furlough. He left Macao on the 22nd inst. by the s.s. *Wing Chai*; at the wharf an immense crowd of people were present to wish him *bon voyage*. A good number of friends came over with him and accompanied the popular doctor on board the mail steamer. Dr. Arango was much esteemed, both in Macao and in Timor.

The police are investigating a case of alleged shooting at San Tin, in the New Territory opposite Capstanum, on the 21st inst., as the result of which two Chinamen, following the occupation of ballast-boatmen, are lying under treatment in the Government Civil Hospital for wounds in the leg. So far as we have been able to gather, the circumstances of the affair appear to be as follows:—The two victims were employed on different boats, and did not visit the village at the same time. The first boat called for ballast sometime in the forenoon, and, according to the story related to the authorities it no sooner approached the beach than the villagers fired upon the crew. Only one was hit, in the leg, as we have indicated, and the others immediately pulled back into the stream out of danger, making for Hongkong. Some time later the second boat pulled ashore at the village also for ballast, and its occupants were treated to exactly the same reception, with a result similar to that in the previous case—one man wounded in the leg. The militant village people were left to themselves and at a later period a police launch took on board the injured man from each ballast-boat and conveyed them ashore and to the hospital.

On the 21st inst. the U.S. monitor *Monterey* arrived from Canton and the British battleship *Glory* from Manila. Three German warships left the Harbour on the 22nd—the *Geier* for Singapore, and the *Illis* and *Tiger* for Canton.

The *Hashidate*, *Itsubushima*, and *Matsushima*, three cruisers of the Japanese instructional fleet, arrived in the harbour on the 24th inst. from Yokohama. H. M. sloop *Algerine* left for Amoy and the Japanese cruiser *Nanika* for Japan.

Two German gunboats arrived from Canton on Thursday—the *Illis* and *Tiger*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha has decided to make Dalny a port of call for its North China liners. The *Tairen Maru*, which left Kobe on the 21st inst. for Taku, will be the first to call at Dalny.

The U.S. warships *Kentucky* and *New Orleans* left Cavite on the 20th inst. for North Borneo, where Admiral Evans was lying with the *Zafiro*. They are then to proceed to Singapore, Hanoi, and the North. The U.S.S. *Itelena* is due here about the 15th prox.

The Emperor of China has conferred decorations on about 200 Japanese officials, including Field-Marshal Marquis Oyama, General Terauchi, and others who performed various duties in connection with affairs in North China.

News has been received in Hongkong of an accident which happened to the Eastern and Australian S.S. Co.'s new s.s. *Empire* at Moji at the end of last week. The vessel was at anchor, coaling, before departing for Kobe, when she was run into by a Japanese steamer, said to be the *Hakosai Maru*, running between Shanghai and Japanese ports, and sustained some damage. It is further reported, though we cannot vouch for the accuracy of the statement, that the Japanese steamer admitted liability for the mishap. The *Empire* is advertised to sail from Hongkong for Australia on 19th March.

A rumour having been current in Japan that Dr. Omori had predicted a great earthquake this year, the eminent seismologist has given an emphatic denial of the story. Seismology, he says, has not as yet made such advancement that it is possible to foretell when an earthquake will occur. He could only gauge a subterranean tremor or measure the force of a volcanic eruption by means of a seismometer. The Doc added that it is good for a volcanic country such as Japan to have occasional minor earthquakes and their non-occurrence often causes a great upheaval. In Tokyo, on an average, there is a great earthquake every 28 years.

It will be remembered that we recorded recently some troublesome times on a British sailing ship at Bangkok. We find in the *Siam Observer* of the 11th inst. the following:—On the representations of the Hon. Hamilton King, the American Minister here, three of the crew of the British sailing ship *Banffshire* (Williams, Hall, and Colignon) who possess papers of American citizenship, have received their discharge from the ship and leave to-day, per s.s. *Keongwai* for Hongkong. The *Banffshire's* troubles have been many since she reached Bangkok, and how she is now to proceed to sea with a very much depleted crew remains to be seen. Her departure, which was to have taken place to-day, has been postponed. It is next to impossible to fill the vacancies in Bangkok.

The *Hongkong Maru* took to San Francisco on her last trip one Tatsuo Yamazaki, a Japanese Buddhist priest, on an unusual and interesting mission. He was to study Mormonism, not for the purpose of embracing that religion, but, on the contrary, for the purpose of furnishing himself with information which will enable him the better to oppose its growth in Japan. The Japanese seem to regard Mormonism with some misgivings, but they are willing to investigate it before undertaking a crusade either for or against it. Tatsuo Yamazaki cannot speak English yet, and means to remain in San Francisco or Sacramento for the next two or three months studying English, which he hopes in that time to master sufficiently for his purpose. When his knowledge of English is sufficient, he means to proceed to Salt Lake City, where he will pursue his investigations of Mormonism.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 12th February.—Re-reels.—In the absence of stock, subjoined quotations are nominal. Filatures.—Since our last, the Chinese New Year holidays have intervened. With the re-opening of the market the active enquiry previously ruling entirely disappeared, buyers being willing to talk business only on a considerably lower basis. Our quotations show a marked decline during the fortnight and, at the lower level, offers are beginning to attract more attention, although actual business done so far has been very moderate. Petit 1 er Cdre 9/11 has been sold down to \$1,080, Cheong Kee 9/11 at \$1,070, Heen Kee 13/15 at \$1,010 and Yee Lun Cheong 18/22 at \$927. Stocks of Best 3e Ordre are very small, with no buyers. Our quotations for this grade are nominal. Short-reels.—The market re-opened with an active enquiry for refusals of good grade 14/16 for America, and a fair amount was placed on forward contract on the basis of \$1,055 for Hau King Lon, \$1,045 for Kwong Wo Hing (200 bales), \$1,010 for Heen Kee, \$990 for King Wo Cheong. Buyers have now withdrawn and the market has fallen quiet. Waste.—Remains about unchanged at last quotations. Sales of Steam Ext. Sel. opened were made at \$154/155, but only a small quantity has been obtainable at this price. Stocks are small and holders seem confident of the future. Other classes than Steam are practically exhausted.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 27th February.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 27th February.—The upward tendency continues market being brisk.

Sheklong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.40 to \$8.45	pc.
Do. " 2, White.....	7.65 to 7.70	"
Sheklong, No. 1, Brown ...	6.25 to 6.30	"
Do. " 2, Brown ...	6.05 to 6.10	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.25 to 8.30	"
Do. No. 1, White.....	7.55 to 7.60	"
Do. " 1, Brown ...	5.90 to 5.95	"
Do. " 2, Brown ...	5.80 to 5.85	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.40 to 12.45	"
Sheklong "	10.60 to 10.65	"

RICE.

HONGKONG, 27th February.—The prices are slightly declining, market being a little weaker.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$3.95 to 4.00
" Round, Good quality	5.55 to 5.60
" Long	5.75 to 5.80
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	4.20 to 4.25
" Garden, " No. 1	4.80 to 4.85
" White,	5.85 to 5.90
" Fine Cargo	6.15 to 6.20

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 27th February.—Malwa.—Small sales were effected in this during the interval at about previous prices, which remain as follows:—New at \$980, last year's New at \$1,020, two years' old at \$1,080, three years' old at \$1,110, older at \$1,120/30.

Bengal.—Market continued very strong, a good quantity of Patna having changed hands from \$1,045 to \$1,057½ per chest and Benares at \$1,012½ to \$1,027½.

Persian.—Further progress has been made in this. Superior long cakes fetched \$800 per picul, square cakes at \$770 and medium and inferior from \$400 to \$450 per picul.

Stock:—

Malwa.....	605
Patna	1,175
Benares	500
Persian	2,786

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 27th February.—Only superior qualities are taken up at current values. Stock, about 3,000 bales.

Bombay	23.00 to 24.00	picul
Bengal (New), Rangoo }	24.00 to 26.75	"
and Dacca.....		
Shanghai and Japanese, 20.10 to 27.50.		"
Tungchow and Ningpo, 26.00 to 27.50.		"
Sale: 400 bales.		

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 27th February.—The market has now opened and business is in full swing. A considerable demand has been experienced throughout the past week, but sales have not been very large, as country buyers have based their ideas below those of sellers. However, at the close, an improvement of \$1 to \$1½ in values of approved desired spinings is noticeable, and with a better outlook for the prospects of the coming rice crop, confidence is slowly returning, and in the near future we look for a good trade at steady price. Stocks continue very low and supplies in view are small. Latest telegrams from Bombay make that market firm at prices that rule considerably over the parity of present quotations, and with advices of an active business in Shanghai, we are still comparatively safe from being flooded with their accumulations. The market close firm with an estimated stock of 9,500 bales unsold and of 35,000 bales sold, but uncleared goods.

Local Manufacture.—Spinners are firm in their demand, but little or no business is being done.

Japanese Yarns have continued steady, and saleable to a small extent at previous quotations.

Raw Cotton:—The feeling during the interval has been very quiet, and for Bengal descriptions there is a continued absence of country demand; the only sales reported are a few small choice parcels of Nagpore kinds aggregating 300 bales at \$25½ to \$26½ for the Tonquin markets. Exporters have been in evidence and about 2,500 bales are reported as shipped off to Kobe. Estimated unsold stock about 3,000 bales. There is nothing doing in Chinese Cotton. Stocks nil. Quotations are \$22 to \$28 Indian, and \$26 to \$28 Chinese.

Exchange on India has fluctuated wildly and closes to-day weak at Rs. 117 for T T and Rs. 117½ for Post. On Shanghai 73, and on Yokohama 77½.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the three weeks ended the 14th instant, viz:—

Indian:—Total sales 8,593 bales comprising 100 bales No. 6, 1,020 bales No. 10s., 250 bales No. 12s., 80 bales No. 14s., 300 bales No. 16s. and 1,843 bales No. 20s., prices showing an advance of one Tael and market closing strong. Estimated unsold stock about 40,000 bales.

Japanese:—Business restricted owing to the firmness of holders, the sales reported only amounting to 500 bales, No. 16s. at Tls. 89 to 93½ and No. 20s. at Tls. 93 to 96½.

Local:—Total sales about 1,501 bales, on the basis of Tls. 82 for No. 10s., Tls. 86½ to 90 for No. 14s. and Tls. 91½ for No. 16s., market closing strong with a tendency to advance in sympathy with the local cotton market.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG 27th February.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...	\$ 80.00 to \$130.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24, ...	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24, ...	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32, ...	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42, ...	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—

	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.30 to 2.40
7 lbs.	2.50 to 2.60
8.4 lbs.	3.30 to 4.10
9 to 10 lbs.	4.00 to 5.60
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.80 to 3.00	
58 to 60 " 3.45 to 3.75	
64 to 66 " 4.00 to 5.50	
Fine	5.75 to 8.20
Book-folds	4.75 to 7.50
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.80 to 1.75
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y 2.00 to 2.30	
7lbs. (32 ") ..	2.40 to 2.95
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs. 2.50 to 2.75	
7lbs. (32 "), " 3.00 to 3.50	
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) 3.30 to 4.00	
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14 lbs. } 4.75 to 7.30	

FANCY COTTONS.—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs }	1.50 to 5.50
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BROCADES.—Dyed

DAMASKS.—

	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted	— to —
Velvets—Black, 22 in	0.29 to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in.	0.26 to 0.29

	per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.3½ to 5.00	

WOOLLENS.—

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops 0.75 to 2.25	
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths 1.25 to 3.00	

	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs. 7.45 to 9.10	
Assorted	7.00 to 9.00
Camlets—Assorted	13.50 to 38.00
Lastings—30 yd., 31 inches } 14.00 to 21.00	
Assorted	
Orleans—Plain	10.00 to —
	per pair
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	0.65 to 0.90
Fine quality,	1.60 to 2.50

METALS.—

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	5.10 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng. 5.00) to —	
Swedish Bar	5.00 to —
Small Round Rod	5.20 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.,	6.60 to —
Wire, 16/25,	9.50 to —
Wire Rope Old	3.50 to —
Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop 9.45 to —	
Australian	9.45 to —
Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz. 43.00 to —	
Vivian's 14/20 oz. 43.00 to —	
Elliot's 14/20 oz. 43.00 to —	
Composition Nails	0.10 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs,	30.00 to —
Tin	96.50 to —
	box, per
Tin-Plates	8.60 to —
	per cwt. case
Steel ½ to 1	6.50 to —
	per picul
SUNDRIES—	
Quicksilver	18.00 to —
	per box.
Window Glass	5.75 to —
	per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil,	3.18 to —

SHANGHAI, 18th February (from Messrs. Noel Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report).—Piece Goods.—Since our last Report a small business has transpired, but this has almost entirely been of the usual New Year complimentary order. For this the River Ports and Newchwang are principally indebted, whilst Tientsin has been quite neglected. Until the report regarding the first shipment sent North is received, it is not expected that any volume of business will be done. In the meantime, however, it is very pleasant to see the Home rates keep very firm with an advancing tendency. This certainly gives both the Native Merchant and the Foreign Importers confidence that they will be able to eventually clear their holdings on a satisfactory basis. Prices here are certainly advancing, but naturally it requires considerable time before values can reach those prevailing at Home, nor are they likely to until consumers have had a chance of working off the supplies which have been bought on a very much higher level of exchange. Therefore in view of this, all in the trade are quite willing to sit on the fence in hopes of market values rising to a nearer approach of replacing figures. It is satisfactory to note that clearances are good, and this is probably accounted for by the fact that, previous to the Chinese New Year, considerable funds were sent down from the North to pay for goods which are to be shipped immediately the first flight of steamers depart. As is usual in this condition of trade the auctions represent nearly the whole of the business done, and it is very satisfactory to note that in nearly every case an advance is reported on last week's sales.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 27th February.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/8½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/8½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/7
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/7½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/7½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/7½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	198½
Credits, 4 months' sight	202½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	161½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	38½
Credits, 60 days' sight	39½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	117
Bank, on demand	117½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	117
Bank, on demand	117½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	73
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	77½

ON MANILA.—

On demand par
 ON SINGAPORE—On demand 1 1/2 p.c.p.m.
 ON BATAVIA—On demand 94 1/2
 ON HAIPHONG—On demand 2 p.c.p.m.
 ON SAIGON—On demand 1 1/2 p.c.p.m.
 ON BANGKOK—On demand 67
 SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate \$12.62
 GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 66 6-1
 BAR SILVER, per oz. 22 1/2

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, February 27th, 1933.—The market has been active during the week and a fair business has been transacted, whilst rates generally speaking have improved and close firm.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai after an unsatisfied demand at \$635 have found buyers at \$687 1/2 cash, market closing with further buyers at the latter rate. No time business has been reported. Nationals unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have further advanced to \$515 after small sales at \$510, and further shares could be placed at the higher rate. China Traders have been the medium of a fair business at \$57 1/8 and more shares could be placed at the latter rate at time of closing. Yangtszes have improved and are enquired for at \$135 after small sales. Cantons and Straits unchanged and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong have ruled steady with small sales at \$32 1/2, closing with further buyers at that rate. China Fires have changed hands at \$86 1/2 and \$87.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have found buyers at \$36 1/2, \$36 1/2 and \$37, closing a little easier with small sellers at quotation. Indos continued to rule erratic in the early part of the week and sales were effected for cash at \$97, \$98 and \$99, also for April at \$99, and for June at \$99 and \$100, later the market firmed up considerably and sales were made at \$101 cash, \$101 for March and \$1 3 for June, market closing at \$ 02 cash and with an unsatisfied demand for June and further forward. Star Ferries have changed hands at \$25 1/2 old and \$14 new. Shell Transports remain neglected at 30s.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have ruled weak with sellers and no sales to report; closing rate is \$100 with sellers; Luzons neglected at quotation.

MINING.—Panjoms have declined to \$3 1/2 after further small sales at \$4. Nothing else under this heading calls for special reference.

DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks found buyers in the early part of the week at \$205 cum div., and afterwards at \$199 and \$198 ex. div., market closing steady at \$199. Kowloon Wharves have advanced to \$96 with buyers after small sales at \$93 1/2, \$94 and \$95 for each and at \$99 1/2, \$100 and \$101 for August. Farnhams after small sales at \$182 1/2 are quoted \$185 sellers.

LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue a quiet market with sellers at \$177 and no sales to report at that rate. Hotels remain unchanged and quiet. West Points could be placed at \$52, but no shares are forthcoming.

COTTON MILLS.—No local business to report under this heading.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been placed at \$21 1/2 to \$23, closing with sellers at \$22 1/2. Watsons and Fenwicks have changed hands at quotations, whilst Campbell Moores and Watsons have advanced to \$10 and \$14 respectively. Other stocks under this heading call for no special reference.

MEMOS.—Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on 2nd March, transfer books closed on 16th inst. China Fire Insurance Company, yearly meeting on 5th March; transfer books closed on 19th inst. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf Company ordinary meeting on 12th March; transfer books close on 2nd March. Luzon Sugar Refining Company, ordinary yearly meeting on 17th March; transfer books close on 3rd March. China Sugar Refining Company, ordinary yearly meeting on 17th March; transfer books close on 3rd March.

Cl sing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$687, buyers (L'don, £65.)
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$22 1/2, buyers
B. Shares	£8	\$22 1/2, buyers
Four. Shares	£1	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$40, sales
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$23, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$10.
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9, sellers
China Sugar	\$190	\$100, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited.	\$500	\$350, sellers
Philippine Tobacco	\$50	\$25, sellers
Invest. Co., Ltd.		
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 37.
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 37 1/2.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 160.
Hongkong	\$100	\$16 1/2, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$11, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$ 0, sales
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$22 1/2, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$5	\$14, sales & sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$6 3/4, sellers
Hk. Steam Water	\$10	\$11 1/2.
boat Co., Ltd.		
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$143, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$228.
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$96, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$110, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$199, exdix, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$162 1/2.
China Fire	\$20	\$87.
China Traders	\$25	\$53, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$37 1/2, buyers
North China	\$25	Tls. 192 1/2, buyers
Straits	\$20	\$1, nominal
Union	\$100	\$515, buyers
Yangtsze	\$60	\$13 1/2, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$177, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$11 1/2.
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$33, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$32, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$12 1/2, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$15, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$600, sellers
Jebeu	\$5	\$1, sellers
Panjom	\$10 1/2	\$3 1/2, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	75 cents, sellers
Raubs	18	\$7.
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$4 1/2, sellers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$30, sellers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$10, sellers
Robinson Co. Piano, Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$27, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$44, sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$36 1/2, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$102.
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	\$1	\$1.10s., sales & sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$25 1/2, sales & buy.
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$14, sales & buy.
United Asbestos	\$4	nominal.
Do.	\$10	\$8 1/2, sellers
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$155.
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$22 1/2, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$ 9, sales
		\$11 1/2, sales

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 27th February.—Freights coast-wise show an improvement on previous rates with a good demand for ready handy sized tonnage. From Saigon there is a fair demand at 7 cents per picul; to Philippines, 35 cents; to Japan there is no enquiry for prompt steamers. Wuhu to Canton, there has been a brisk demand and rates advanced to 28 candareens; at the close 25 candareens is being offered. Coal freights.—From Japan remain firm at \$2 to Hongkong, \$2.50 to Singapore, \$3.25 to \$3.50 to Philippines. The following are the settlements:—

Erie J. Ray—American barque, 910 tons, Mantang to Singapore, 17 1/2 cents per picul.
 Vale of Doon—German barque, 930 tons, Rajang to Hongkong, two trips, \$7,000 each trip.
 Renalder—British steamer, 1,939 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1 90 per ton.
 Icydene—British steamer, 2,280 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$2 per ton.
 Prometheus—Norwegian steamer, 1,067 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Amoy, \$2.50 per ton.
 Duke of Fife—British steamer, 3,416 tons, Kuchinotzu or Karatsu to Manila, \$3.25 per ton.
 Tonbridge—British steamer, 1,814 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Singapore, 2.50 per ton.
 Hingang—British steamer, 1,536 tons, Karatsu Moji or Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$2.10 per ton.
 Deuteros—German steamer, 1,501 tons, Wuhu and Chinkiang to Canton, 22 candareens per picul.
 Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, Wuhu and Chinkiang to Canton, 25 candareens per picul.
 Bygds—Norwegian steamer, 771 tons, Wuhu and Chinkiang to Canton, 34 cents per picul.
 Triumph—German steamer, 769 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 26 candareens per picul.
 Taifu—German steamer, 1,065 tons, Wuhu to Canton, \$8,000 in full.
 Selun—Norwegian steamer, 800 tons, Wuhu and Chinkiang to Canton, \$8,500 in full.
 Prosper—Norwegian steamer, 788 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 21 candareens per picul.
 Cassius—German steamer, 1,627 tons, Wuhu and Chinkiang to Canton, \$15,000 in full.
 Hopsang—British steamer, 1,359 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$1 80 per ton.
 Saphir—Norwegian steamer, 861 tons, Touron to Canton, \$2.50 per ton.
 Pioneer—Norwegian steamer, 975 tons, six trips; Saigon to one port Philippines, 30 cents per picul each trip.
 Elsa—German steamer, 903 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.
 Lisa—Swedish steamer, 998 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 33 cents per picul.
 Quarta—German steamer, 1,146 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul (recharter).
 Telemachus—British steamer, 1,310 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 14 cents per picul.
 Lena—Norwegian steamer, 979 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.
 Taicheong—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.
 Frithjof—Norwegian steamer, 891 tons, hence to Saigon, \$5,000 in full; Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.
 Independent—German steamer, 1,040 tons, Rangoon to one port Philippines, 30 cents per picul.
 Germania—German steamer, 1,714 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$8,000 per month.
 Quarta—German steamer, 1,146 tons, monthly, 10 months, \$6,500 per month.
 Tetartos—German steamer, 1,578 tons, monthly, 4 months, \$6,750 per month.
 Marie Rickmers—German steamer, 1,920 tons, monthly, 2 2 months, \$6,750 per month.
 Wineland—Danish steamer, 1,663 tons, monthly, 3 3 months, private terms.
 Prono—German steamer, 710 tons, monthly, 12 months, private terms.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Banca (str.), Glengyle (str.), Pyrrhus (str.), Hakata Maru (str.), Awa Maru (str.).
 FOR LONDON.—Bengal (str.), Pingusuy (str.), Jason (str.), Hakata Maru (str.), Machaon (str.), Diomed (str.), Banca (str.), Glengyle (str.), Glaucus (str.), Awa Maru (str.).
 FOR LIVERPOOL.—Kintuck (str.), Deucalion (str.).
 FOR MARSEILLES.—Annam (str.), Pyrrhus (str.), Hakata Maru (str.), Awa Maru (str.).
 FOR BREMEN.—Preussen (str.).
 FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Serbia (str.), C. Ferd. Lucis (str.), Bamberg (str.), Andalusia (str.), Konigsberg (str.), Sambia (str.), Saxonia (str.).
 FOR GENOA.—Diomed (str.), Glengyle (str.), Kintuck (str.), Deucalion (str.).
 FOR HAVRE, COPENHAGEN AND BALTIC PORTS.—Korea (str.).
 FOR TRIESTE.—Nippon (str.).
 FOR VICTORIA, B. C.—Lyra (str.), Oanfa (str.), Aki Maru (str.).
 FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of Japan (str.), Athenian (str.).
 FOR NEW YORK.—Shimosa (str.).
 FOR PORTLAND (Or.).—Indrapura (str.).
 FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Changsha (str.), Empire (str.).
 FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—Kishio Maru (str.).
 FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, AND BOMBAY.—Tientsin (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

February—ARRIVALS.

- 22, Chunsang, British str., from Hongay.
 22, Taiwan, British str., from Canton.
 22, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
 23, Bombay Maru, Japanese str., from Bombay.
 23, Borneo, German str., from Cardiff.
 23, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
 23, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from Marseilles.
 23, Gibraltar, British str., from Shanghai.
 23, Holliswood, Amr. bgo., fr m Freemantle.
 23, Karin, Swedish str., from Manila.
 23, Loksang, British str., from Shanghai.
 23, Maria Rickmers, German str., from Moji.
 23, Moyune, British str., from Moji.
 23, Pronto, German str., from Saigon.
 23, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
 23, Saphir, Norwegian str., from Chinkiang.
 23, Taishan, British str., from Saigon.
 23, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 24, Achilles, British str., from Liverpool.
 24, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 24, Arnold Luyken, German str., from Saigon.
 24, Candia, British str., from London.
 24, Hashidate, Japanese str., from Yokohama.
 24, Ichang, British str., from Shanghai.
 24, Itsukushima, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 24, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 24, Koun Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.
 24, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Australia.
 24, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 24, Matsushima, Japanese str., from Yokohama.
 24, Sabine Rickmers, Brit. str., from Singapore.
 24, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 24, Wakamatsu Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 25, Chowfa, German str., from Bangkok.
 25, Clara Jelsen, German str., from Saigon.
 25, Daijin Maru, Japanese str. from Tamsui.
 25, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
 25, Indramayo, British str., from Manila.
 25, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 25, Jaguar, German gunboat, from Swatow.
 25, Neptune, British str., from Penarth.
 25, Singan, British str., from Shanghai.
 25, Taishun, Chinese str., from Canton.
 25, Yushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 26, Argo, Norwegian str., from Chinkiang.
 26, Bengal, British str., from Shanghai.
 26, Din, Portuguese gunboat, from Macao.
 26, Gregory Apear, British str., from Calcutta.
 26, Hangsang, British str., from Canton.
 26, Itis, German gunboat, from Canton.
 26, Inaba Maru, Japanese str., from Seattle.
 26, Labor, Norw. str., from Chinkiang.
 26, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 26, Petrarch, German str., from Rangoon.
 26, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 26, Tiger, German gunboat, from Canton.
 26, Wineland, Danish str., from Mororan.
 27, Bengal, British str., from Shanghai.
 27, Din, Portuguese gunboat, from Macao.
 27, Diamante, British str., from Manila.
 27, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
 27, Mazagon, British str., from London.
 27, Ragnar, Norw. str., from Chinkiang.

February—DEPARTURES.

- 22, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 22, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 22, Nestor, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Algerine, British sloop, for Amoy.
 23, Ernest Simons, French str., for Shanghai.
 23, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 23, Hinsang, British str., for Kobe.
 23, Kweilin, British str., for Canton.
 23, Oceanien, French str., for Europe.
 23, Pitsanulok, German str., for Swatow.
 23, Rajaburi, German str., for Hoihow.
 23, Temiya Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
 24, Andalusia, German str., for Nagasaki.
 24, Chiyeun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 24, Daiya Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 24, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 25, Iyo Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 24, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., for Bombay.
 24, Kiukiang, British str., for Manila.
 24, Kong Beng, German str., for Bangkok.
 24, Michael Jelsen, German str., for Hoihow.
 24, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
 24, Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Canton.
 24, Saphir, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 24, Skuld, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 24, Szechuen, British str., for Canton.
 24, Taisang, British str., for Swatow.
 24, Triumph, German str., for Wuhu.
 25, Achilles, British str., for Yokohama.

- 25, Anping Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 25, Bombay Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 25, Espiegle, British sloop, for Shanghai.
 25, Keongwai, German str., for Swatow.
 25, Namsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 25, Napechang, British str., for Taku.
 25, Nippon, Austrian str., for Yokohama.
 25, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
 25, Progress, German str., for Tournon.
 25, Shawmut, British str., for Moji.
 25, Taiwan, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Tartar, British str., for Vancouver.
 25, Vale of Doon, British barque, for Rajang.
 26, Amigo, German str., for Tsintan.
 26, Anli Lo, British str., for Amoy.
 26, Candia, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Decima, German str., for Wuhu.
 26, Gibraltar, British str., for New York.
 26, Heinrich Menzell, Ger. str., for Singapore.
 26, Indramayo, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Ivydene, British str., for Moji.
 26, Kansu, British str., for Tientsin.
 26, Lodsen, Norwegian str., for Kobe.
 26, Loyal, German str., for Bangkok.
 26, Pakhoi, British str., for Foochow.
 26, Salamanca, British str., for Saigon.
 26, Shakano Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
 26, Singan, British str., for Canton.
 26, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 26, Taishun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 26, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 26, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 27, Elcano, U.S. gunboat, for Amoy.
 27, Faubang, British str., for Tientsin.
 27, Korea, American str., for San Francisco.
 27, Pompey, American str., for Amoy.
 27, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 27, Villalobos, U.S. gunboat, for Amoy.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Sun Kiang*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Da Rosa and infant, Mrs. McEllen, Mrs. Cameron, Doctors Burkhardt, Dean and Williams, Capt. Pinto, Messrs. A. Kramer, Chas. Toomes, M. de Liaco and 3 sons, Narciso Baldovino, Ross, Ammen, Gomes, Brown and Lalchand.

Per *Oceanien*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Mrs. Intosh, Mrs. Vivin, Miss Shackles, Messrs. L. P. Brigeles, Aymart, Meynerd, Wissing, C. A. Groves, W. B. Perrin and Boutinon; for Saigon, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Adelin; from Shanghai, Mr. Calrol; for Singapore, from Yokohama, Messrs. Herbert Calfelt and Bowie; from Shanghai, Messrs. Salomon and Goldstein; for Colombo, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. W. Graham and Baron de Gyldensterna; for Bombay, from Shanghai, Mr. Samy Bourdieu; for Su z, from Shanghai, Mrs. Salomon; for Marseilles, from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Philipps and three children, Mrs. L. Roudonet and child, Messrs. Dulan, Tiritte, Monnet, Toussint, Demareto, L. Cavillier, Caronnat, Cabioch and Giacomette.

Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. L. de Lara, Messrs. Young, Nicholson, Assorio and A. Zalisky.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles via Colombo, Mr. A. de Castelli, from Singapore, Rev. Basileu, Messrs. Pollock, Evra Gublay and Haguenauer; from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Biedermann, Messrs. Dumarest, Harvie, Frank L. Willcox and C. P. Broun; for Shanghai, from Marseilles via Colombo, Mrs. Sandrie, Revs Solano and Amodee, Messrs. Brunger, Bruyere, Th. Delavignette, Souvercage, Chevalier, Devilliers, Chabredier and A. Ferrante; from Saigon, Mr. Commiade; for Kobe, from Saigon, Mr. Ch. Aleveque; for Yokohama, from Bombay, Messrs. Commissariat, Bottlewalla and Kodomull; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Wright and two children, Major and Mrs. Isaack, Mr. and Mrs. Blacke and Mr. Perceval Landon; from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Hutton and Mr. Demangelle.

Per *Thales*, from Swatow, Mr. Wandres.

Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. V. F. Enset, Misses Fany, Lila Vois and Tony Wise, Dr. H. C. Bierbomer, Messrs. Stewart G. Crow, Walter Scott and J. P. Somerville.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, from Japan, for Hongkong, Messrs. C. D. Mass, A. B. Rouse, C. Clifford, K. Uyemura, S. Kusunoki and M. Asakura, Rev. J. Mizuhar, Mrs. S. Kondo; for Manila, Mrs. C. Canard and two children, Mrs. G. Javier, Misses L. H. Bryan and K. Flavell.

Mr. Mrs. J. R. Barclay, H. Imman, S. Ohta, F. Kintos and L. Zafra.

Per *Kumano Maru*, from Australia, for Hongkong, Very Rev. Dean Stithorn, Right Rev. Dr. Gallagher, Right Rev. Dr. J. H. Higgins, Lieut. Col. C. H. Whipple, Messrs. O. Larance, Thom's Mackintosh, W. A. Railton, W. A. Hones, W. T. Reardoley, J. Burns and J. F. Kemmel; for Yokohama, Mrs. R. J. Simpson, Mrs. K. Ecles, Mrs. S. Hall, Mrs. Twigg, Mrs. Forster, Mr. and Mrs. H. Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. And, Mrs. H. Thomson, Mrs. Lossetter, Mrs. and Miss Edwards, Rev. and Mrs. Goodrich, Rev. and Mrs. Glane and child, Rev. E. E. Skuse, Misses Poalman, P. Hooper, Ansell, Armstrong and Mackintosh, Messrs. A. Mark, R. Hart, Y. Matsuyama, Poalman, G. G. Crespin, W. A. Preston, A. F. Hooper, W. Franzin, Lossetter, Meeleau, J. A. Brown, E. Benley, S. Pile, E. Thomson, T. Carter, W. D. Armstrong, K. Iriyl, E. Sariano, A. G. Osborn, P. Willinson, Y. Tatsye and T. de las Reyes.

Per *Tsuba Maru*, from London, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Johnston, Mrs. M. B. Byles, Mr. and Mrs. Ross, Dr. G. D. Whyte, Messrs. A. Emerson, H. Hackwood, E. Marcenaro, J. D. Melvin, R. Hunter, Wm. Fraser, George, H. T. Martin, Tindall, K. Saito, K. Takahashi, Vandort and Z. Zchariss; for Kobe, Messrs. M. Muraki, T. Midzutani, T. Yoshidzumi and B. Ishida; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. James Orr, General H. Oku, Major Yui, Capt. S. Ito and T. Utaka, Dr. M. Miura, G. Kawamura and T. Akutagawa.

DEPARTED.

Per *Hamburg*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. L. F. Garrard and child, Col. and Mrs. H. Mansfield, Mrs. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. A. Cameron, Miss Elwin, Baron Carstanjen, Messrs. H. V. Murray, F. R. Vida, H. Craig, A. Spencer Ellam, S. M. Berger, Jno. Daniels, G. Boelsen, F. J. Engelken, Basilewitch, David Campbell, D. G. Francisco, A. Torronen and M. Basing; for Nagasaki, Messrs. F. C. Paun and James Casey; for Kobe, Messrs. J. M. C. Gallely, K. Shimizu and K. Ikeda; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. A. Riveira, Miss Cunliffe, Dr. G. Nakamura, Messrs. L. Fonggouk and W. von Sheven.

Per *Oceanien*, for Singapore, Dr. Bowers, Messrs. F. D. Barretto, K. Rijhamull, S. N. Kinugawa, H. Moolchand and P. Prebois; for Batavia, Mr. Hoogvet; for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Michael; for Bombay, Mrs. Machado, Dr. J. A. Souza Machado and Mr. H. Nagaoka; for Marseilles, Dr. and Mrs. M. d'Aronjo, Misses B. and E. d'Aronjo, Rev. M. Dias, Capt. Castellein, Lieut. Moel, Miss E. Rozenkrantz and Mr. Schwoerer.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai, Count and Countess de Lerdain, Messrs. J. Divos, H. Haardt, Y. Solomon, H. Roseburg, J. L. Davis, and Goldstein; for Yokohama, Colonel Heron and Mr. P. R. Simmons.

Per *Rohilla Maru*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Dumas and infant, Mrs. M. L. Stanford, Mr. and Mrs. Z. Umco, Misses M. Kelly, M. Albert and S. Levey, Messrs. C. A. Graves, F. Gollock, G. Haguenauer, I. M. De Los Lios, Mr. Gasper, J. B. Darlow, M. Conception, Alfonso de Castellvi, Leucio Dlouisio, S. Daimon and P. Landon.

Per *Tartar*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Lieut. H. A. Field, U.S.N., Mrs. H. A. Field and infant, Misses Boyd, Wise and F. Ross, Messrs. Alex. McKenzie, B. A. Smith, F. W. Dawson and Isaac Adams; for Nagasaki, Dr. H. A. Bierblower, U.S.A.; for Yokohama, Mrs. J. E. Woodward and three children; for San Francisco, Rev. and Mrs. G. O. Hewes and two children and Rev. F. R. Felt; for Paris, Mons. Jos. Deschamp and Capt. G. Grell; for London, Sir and Lady F. Carrington, Capt. Wm. B. Fawckner, R.N., and Mr. N. E. Dinshaw.

Per *Sungkiang*, for Manila, Mrs. W. A. Carlton, Mrs. M. Marquart, Mrs. F. Lorenzo, Mr. and Mrs. Reyes, Miss T. Campbell, Revs. F. Mounior and M. Vissac, Drs. A. D. Williams, W. T. Deen and J. L. Burkart, Capt. A. S. Pinto, Messrs. E. C. Bens, S. J. Bens, R. H. Wood, J. Roullven, J. Gordon, A. Pastrana, F. Pastrana, L. Arego, B. Sadick and C. C. Carter.

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